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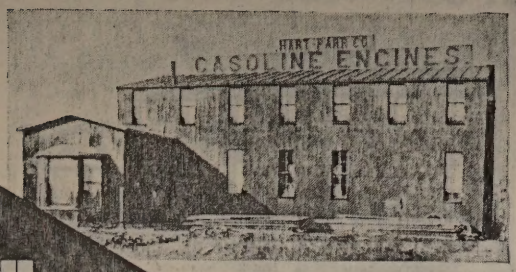

1854 FLOYD COUNTY CENTENNIAL CENTURAMA 1854 – 1954

Iowa

NORA SPRINGS

RUDD

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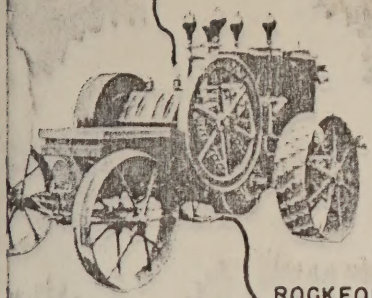
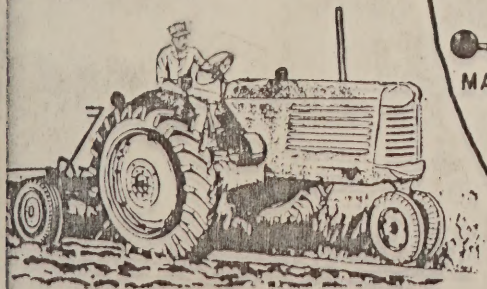


ROCKFORD

CHARLES CITY

See Page 49



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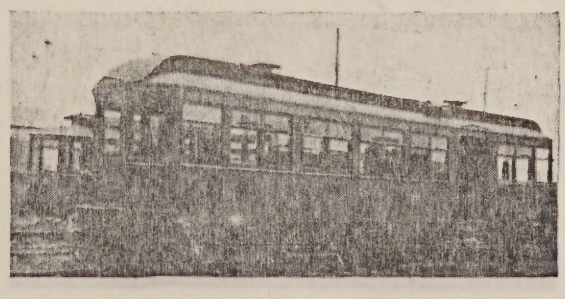

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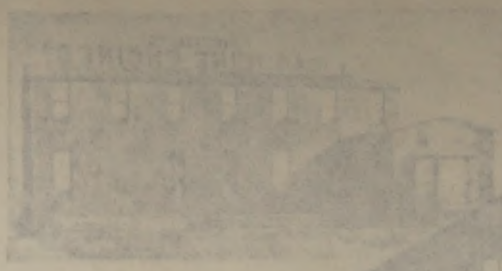

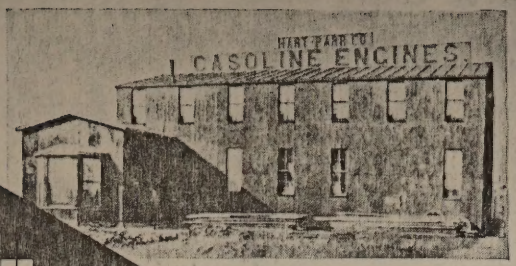

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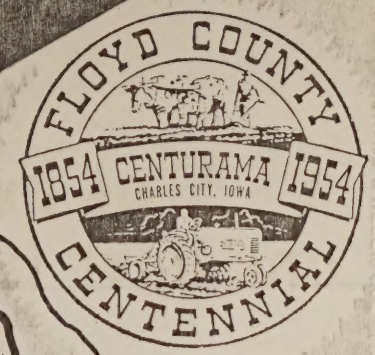

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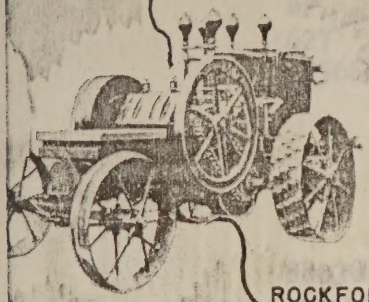

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ROBERT A. SAR
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It goes without saying, that a work of the breadth and scope of this Historical Program would be impossible without the diligent effort of many, many people. May I express my heartfelt gratitude to the members of the Editorial Committee, who did the writing of the Historical copy; to the several groups and their many members who worked so hard in the advertising campaign.

We hope that this booklet will have a real historical significance to the reader, and that you will add this to your library for future reference and interest.

DR. MAX E. JOHNS
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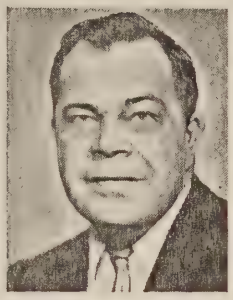

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THE ORGANIZATION OF FLOYD COUNTY

The County of Floyd was created by an Act of the Territorial Legislature of Iowa, January 15, 1851, at Iowa City, then the capital of Iowa, as one of several surrounding unorganized counties attached to the organized county of Chickasaw, for judicial and revenue purposes.

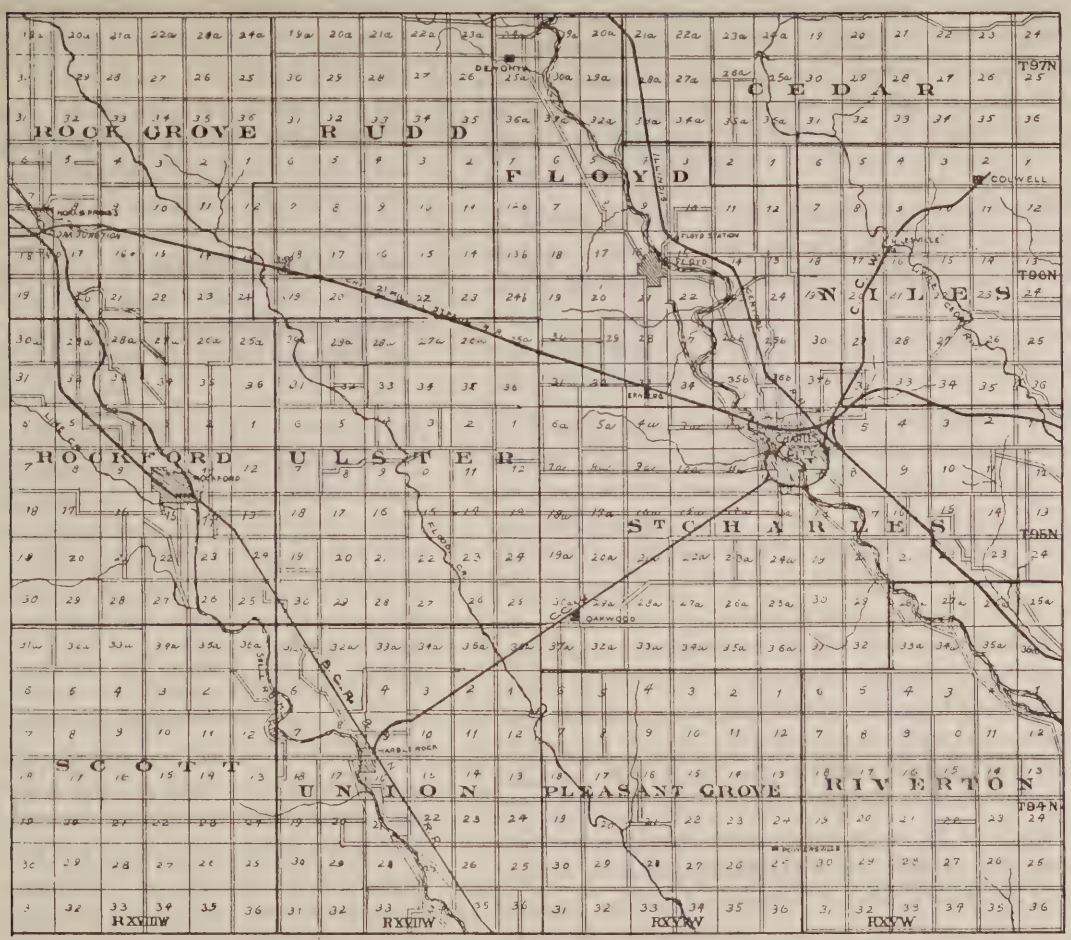
On June 21, 1854, the people of this section petitioned Judge Lyon, of Chickasaw, "to be organized into a separate and distinct county." The first election for county officers took place August 7, 1854. John M. Hunt was elected county judge (a "one-man-power" form of government existed until 1861, when a law was enacted for the affairs of the counties to be looked after, as now, by a board of county supervisors.)

In 1854 St. Charles City (now Charles City) was a hamlet with less than a dozen voters. The entire county cast eighty-five votes in that first election. Mitchell and Howard counties were yet unorganized because of the lack of constitutional amount of territory. The Legislature on January 24, 1855, detached a three-mile strip on the north side of Floyd county and created the boundaries of both Floyd and Mitchell counties as they exist at present.

The county was given the name of "Floyd" in honor of Sergeant Charles Floyd, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1806, and who died and was buried near Sioux City, Iowa, at what is known as Sergeant's Bluff.

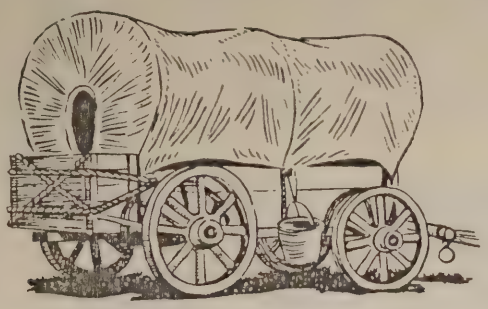
The location of a county seat touched off a series of exciting incidents from torchlight parades and effigy burnings and efforts to forcibly convey the public records to the new location, to appeals to the courts on the legality of the county seat election. The question of whether the county seat should be located in St. Charles or near the Town of Floyd, the geographic center of the county, interrupted the completion of the first court house.

In the year 1858 a contested election, temporarily, determined the geographic location to be the county seat and amidst the excitement of a demon-



stration protesting the canvass of the election, Judge Ripley ordered the offices and records of the treasurer and recorder (a joint office until 1864) to be removed to the store of Silas Smith in the Town of Floyd. The supreme court of Iowa returned the county seat to St. Charles where it was to remain; even though the matter was to be agitated after the burning of the first court house in 1881.

The first court was held in the Harwood frame house at a site on Kelly Street where now is erected the offices of Dr. W. C. Baltzell and Dr. Harold A. Morris. The first county records were



kept in a log building called the "Biglow House," on the west side of the river, in what is now Charles City.

The first court house, a stone building, was finished in 1861. Theo. Mix was the architect and Ira Brackett the contractor for the stone work. The entire cost of the building was less than $18,000.00 The second court house was a red brick structure, built at a cost of $25,000.00, resting upon the foundation of the first court house. Milo Gilbert was the contractor for this building, which is a vivid memory to nearly all of the present day inhabitants of the county.

As functions of government and population enlarged, and buildings deteriorate with age and use, so it became essential to replace the court house with the present beautiful edifice of tan brick, Bedford stone and polished red granite. The cornerstone for the present structure was laid in 1940. The cost of the building was within the $240,000.00 bond issue, authorized by the voters, and without aid from the Work's Progress Administration of the federal government.

The county poor farm, located between the Town of Floyd and what is known as Floyd Crossing, consisting of two hundred forty acres, was purchased in 1869 for twenty-five dollars per acre, or a total of $6,000.00. The present day inventory of the county poor farm and the two story brick institution is moderately valued at $125,000.00.

Fortunately, most of the valuable and important records of the county were in safes and fireproof vaults at the time the fire destroyed the court house of 1881. Tax-books and ledgers, most of the books of the recorder's office, the auditor's most important records and vouchers and the books of the clerk's office were not consumed. As a result, the original surveys, town plats, and entries of record are preserved. Some transfer index records, charts, maps, valuable papers, early day proceedings of the county judge and minutes of the board of supervisors prior to 1871, etc., the loss of which could not be measured in monetary values, were destroyed with the building.

The first board of supervisors met January 7, 1861. Abner Root, clerk of the district court, was clerk of the board. M. G. Cook of Floyd, was chairman for the year, and John Ball of Ulster Township, W. P. Gaylord of Rock Grove Township, E. C. Hall of Riverton Township, Sanford Harwood of St. Charles Township, Amos Refsnider of Niles Township, and John C. Townsend of Cedar Township assembled as members of the board.

The population of Floyd county, according to the official census of 1950, is 21,505. It consists of twelve legal townships and seven incorporated cities and towns. There are 1897 farms with 301,682 acres. The taxable valuation of Floyd county exceeds $36,000,000.00.

Floyd county is the fourth west of the Mississippi river, in the second tier from the north line of the state, and is therefore within the section usually denominated northern Iowa. It is somewhat less than medium size in superficial area, containing 494 square miles, or about 312,793 acres.

Floyd county is easily one of the banner counties of Iowa. It lays claim to this distinction on account of the character of its people and the productiveness of its lands. The surface of the county is gently undulating and its three principal streams and their tributaries afford adequate drainage. The soil is a black loam, underlaid with yellow clay or limestone. In the 494 square miles of territory within its boundaries, there is scarcely an acre but has good producing value. The banks of the three largest streams that cross the county namely, the Big Cedar, Little Cedar and Shell Rock, are covered with natural timber. Most of the farms of the county now abound with considerable artificial groves, which adds to the attractiveness of the landscape, besides affording plenty of shade and shelter.

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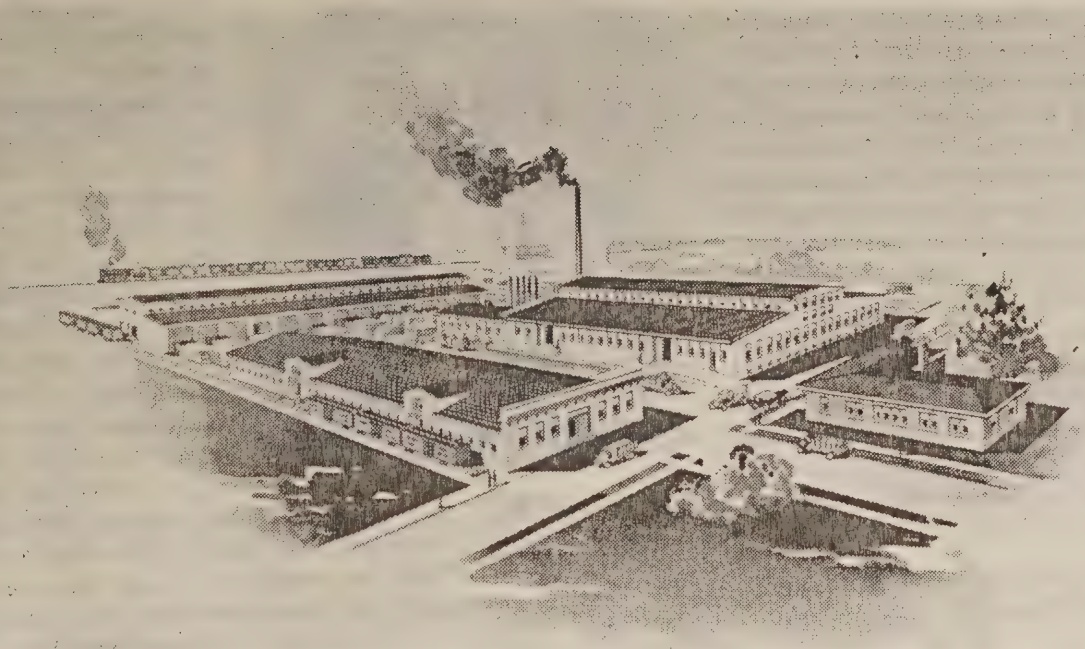

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PUBLIC SCHOOL DEVELOPEMENT IN FLOYD COUNTY

Fannie G. Howell

FROM THE EARLIEST SETTLEMENT to the present time the people of Floyd County have shown an intense interest in the public school education of their children. Changes have not taken place rapidly but have been brought about after careful consideration as the needs have been discovered and the best possible solution for the problem determined by the wishes of the people.

1854-1857 were years in which schools were first established. These were financed by subscription and by pro rata tax. The first of these was built of logs by Edson Gaylord and others one-half mile east of Nora Springs during the fall of 1854. The first winter term in this school of twelve was taught by Sarah J. Griffith, 15 years of age. When this building burned the next spring it was replaced by another at a location one-half mile west. Schools were held in St. Charles, Ulster and Union Townships in 1855 and others in surprisingly rapid succession. These were in such places as "a rude cabin," "a double log shanty — in one part of which a store had been established," and "overhead in a granary." In one school some of the children had to walk as much as three miles and in another some of the pupils were bearded men. The terms were known as summer and winter with few references to fall and spring — a term consisted of a twelve to fourteen week period.

In 1858 legislation was passed that provided for tax supported public education from the common school through the university and that each township in the state should be organized as a Township School District. This directive was followed after meetings of explanation were held in the different districts where "This law was expounded by school officers and educators, until the machinery got to moving well throughout the country. Meetings were held of township school presidents, where they instructed one another. One such meeting was held in Cheney and Brackett's Hall, Charles City, October 6. 1858."

During the first period of Floyd County's history A. B. F. Hildreth was active in both the county and state educational development where he exerted great influence for good. He was editor of the Charles City Intelligencer, 1856-1870, and a member of the State Board of Education, a body having legislative powers, 1858-1864. There were many things he considered necessary and worked for a while on this board. He is given credit for on December 23, 1858, having introduced the amendment to a bill for the government and regulation of the State University of Iowa: "Section 1. Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa, that the object of the State University of Iowa, established by the Constitution at Iowa City, shall be to provide the best and most efficient means of imparting to the youth of the State, of both sexes, a thorough education, and a perfect knowledge of the different branches of literature, with their various applications."

Mr. Hildreth was the author of the present Section 280.9, Code of 1954: "The Bible shall not be excluded from any publis school or institution in the state, nor shall any child be required to read it contrary to the wishes of his parent or guardian."

Because of the conflict between the duties of the State Board of Education and the Legislature Mr. Hildreth introduced a bill in the General Assembly in 1864 "to abolish the State Board of Education, and to provide for the election of a superintendent of public instruction." This method of selecting the chief state school officer has been used for 90 years. The 55th General Assembly passed a bill providing for the choosing of a State Board of Public Instruction which was organized January 1, 1954. This board is charged with the responsibility of appointing a State Superintendent of Public Instruction who will take his office January 1, 1955.

Scores of additional people have had a great part as legislators, administrators, classroom teach-

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ers, school officers, and the general public in directing the educational progress of our county.

Union Township Sub-district No. 3 organized a high school in 1897 but did not become independent until the Marble Rock Consolidated District was formed in 1919. Rudd became independent in 1896 and consolidated in 1915. Floyd followed in 1897 and again in 1916. An entirely new school was set up when Colwell Consolidated was formed from territory in Cedar and Niles Townships in Floyd County and from Deerfield Township in Chickasaw County in 1916.

Following the organization of the Township School Districts, Riverton Township School District was in effect in 1865 and a few years later the area was composed of eleven Rural Independent Districts.

Not until 1871 was the Charles City Independent District separated from the St. Charles Township after there had been established a graded school under the general school law and "a magnificent school edifice" built and furnished in 1865-1866 on the present Central School block at a cost of $11,965.02. In 1878 the Nora Springs Independent District was formed in Rock Grove Township. The date of the formation of the Rockford Independent District is not available and 1906-1912 it is listed as consolidated.

Floyd, Union Township Sub-district No. 3 (Marble Rock) and Rudd were graded schools before 1887.

Following these consolidations the area remaining in each of ten townships continued as Township School Districts with a total of 76 sub-districts; Riverton as 11 Rural Independent Districts; and Floyd Rural Independent made up of area in St. Charles and Floyd Townships. None of these districts operate high schools but send their high school pupils to districts which have such facilities on a tuition basis with transportation costs paid by the sending districts and state aid.

Of the possible 88 one-room schools for elementary pupils only 30 are in operation. The children from the remaining 58 districts are designated to attend the elementary school in the high school district chosen by the majority of parents in the area with their tuition and transportation paid as for high school pupils.

Reorganization of the county school system took place in 1948 when the first election of a County Board of Education was held in connection with the regular March school election. The five members of this board each serve for a six year period. The Code of Iowa sets up their specific duties with regard to the County School System among which are these: appoint a county school superintendent; approve the curriculum as recommended by the county superintendent in conformity with the course of study prescribed by the state department of public instruction; enforce all laws, and rules and regulations of the department for the transportation of pupils to and from public school in all school districts of the county; certify the budget, submitted by the county superintendent, to the county board of supervisors; and with the assistance of the county superintendent and the cooperation of the boards of the districts within the county, plan and supervise the orderly reorganization of districts, into larger and more efficient attendance and administrative units.

While no reorganization of school districts within Floyd County has taken place since 1920, many studies and surveys have been made, many groups and individuals have discussed needs and possibilities, plans are under way for further studies and if Floyd County follows the trend throughout the State and the Nation school districts will be reorganized according to the wishes of the majority of people as they petition and cast their ballot. The machinery for this has been set up through the acts of the past several General Assemblies.

The early history of the schools of the county is given in the 1882 History of Floyd County and the History of 1917, however, these leave much to be desired because of lack of information from many districts.

J. B. Dawley, one of the three early settlers in Niles Township, was said to be an interpreter between Indians and whites.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF FLOYD COUNTY

Up to about 1888, it was generally believed, and so published, that no evidence existed in Floyd County to show that this region had ever been inhabited by the mound-builders, however about that time Mr. Clement E. Webster began some extensive explorations and found that many groups of ancient mounds, graves, fortifications, etc. were discovered and explored; and a vast amount of relics and evidence of scientific importance secured.

The results of these discoveries were made known to the world through the Smithsonian and other scientific institutions.

In the eastern part of Floyd County just northwest of Charles City in the valley of the Cedar River on the John Scrimiger farm many of these ancient mounds (34 in number) were located.

Others were located on the west side of the Little Cedar south of old Chickasaw, in the western part of the county along the Shell Rock River four and one-half miles north of Rockford on the Bumgardner farm, as well as numerous other places.

It is seldom called to mind except by a few that in the far distant days of the past, another race or races of men occupied this beautiful region as their home.

These old people who lived here, fought, loved and died, leaving behind them as a monument of their former occupancy only the fortifications, burial mounds, ornaments, weapons and utensils.

These remain to us as silent records of a people vanished and gone; — they have fulfilled their destiny. To the thoughtful mind it is saddening — the contemplation of a mighty race passing away to make room for those who were to follow.

The Scrimger farm northwest of Charles City on the road to Rotary Park (formerly known as Southard's Mill) was formerly called "Mound Builders' Cemetery Farm," due to the presence of Indian mounds in the early days of the county.

A great flood in August of 1851 on the Cedar river floated driftwood up to the courthouse.

INDIAN HISTORY OF FLOYD COUNTY

The next race of people to appear upon the scene was the American Indian. There were two great families the Dakotas and the Algonquins who came here from the east.

Of the Algonquin family the tribes known to Iowa history are Sauks, Foxes, Illinois, Pottawatamies, Ottoways and Chippeways. Of the Dakota family the Sissetons, Iowas, Winnebagoes, Osages, Missouris and Omahas.

In the history of Floyd County the Winnegages and the Pottawattamies played the most important role. These two tribes were friends and often visited each other, and were quite friendly to the white man.

In 1850, Joseph Kelly came to what is now Charles City, and was the first white man who came with the view of permanently settling. At this time, there existed here a village of Winnebago Indians. Their wigwams numbered 150, and were located on a beautiful spot near the present site of the McKinley stone school building on the west bank of the Cedar River.

For many years this region had been a favorite and dearly loved one, by the Indians; and no one who knows this beautiful valley of the Cedar River will wonder at the strong attachment for it manifested by these "Children of the Forest." Other favorite camp sites were near what is now the west end of Kelly street, and in the heavy timber just north of the city known as "Brackett's timber."

Many Indian graves and mounds have been located in Floyd County. Some of which are near Marble Rock, Rockford, and Nora Springs. Near "Camp Idlewild" north of Floyd an Indian stone grave of special interest was found; and on the north side of a small creek coming in from the west Indian graves, in form resembling those of whites —are located.

The Indian trails ran up and down the various streams of this area. One of importance ran up the Shell Rock River, and passed close along the east side of the stream where Rockford is now located, then continued north across country passing Osage and into Minnesota.

The following interesting article relating to the Winnebago Indian appeared in the Intelligencer (An early newspaper published by Hon. A. B. F.

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INDIAN HISTORY (Continued)

Hildreth), under the date of February 25th, 1858.

A ride of 15 minutes, the other day, brought us to an encampment of the Winnebago Indian. It occupied a retired and protected spot in the Cedar River timber about one mile north of town (Charles City). The band numbering 32 all told, are a part of the once powerful tribe of Winnebagoes and are on a visit to their former hunting ground. We saw smoke curling from their wigwams, we thought of the time when beautiful Iowa was one vast wilderness, unadorned by art and unadmired by the eye of white men, and when only the Indian hunter's shout awoke the solitude. In imagination we saw him return to his lodge, loaded with spoils of the chase to lie down to rest. We saw him awake from sleep and gird about his loins the cruel tomahawk and scalping knife, while piercing war-whoops rang from dell to dell. We heard the red man's cry of death — the white man's shout of victory. Again we looked, and the colossal wheel was set in motion whose accelerated revolutions were to keep time with the pulsations of a new state's ambitious heart, and hurry forward the multitudinous throng who were to people Iowa's vast domains, develop her resources and build up her cities — landmarks of her liberation from the darkness of barbarism.

Applying for admission at the most conspicuous of the tents, we were given to understand that we were welcome. We found the Indians variously engaged — making fishing tackle, dressing game, cleaning guns, arranging their toilet, etc. Wapsipinicon, or "Capt. Jim," as he is familiarly called

by the whites, whose acquaintance we had made some time before, coming in and recognizing us, we were invited to a seat by his side and a smoke of the "pipe of peace." This led us to be sociably inclined; so, with Capt. Jim's English and our knowledge of the Indian vernacular, we whiled away an hour in agreeable conversation. From him we learned that the Winenbago tribe were now reduced to about two thousand souls. The majority

of them are on the Indian Reservation in Minnesota. Two or three of their most noted braves are now in Washington. There are nineteen chiefs in the tribe, each of whom, with his band, is in the habit of visiting the white settlements on a trading and begging tour three or four times a year. During their expeditions they seldom commit depredations of any kind, which fact secures to them many favors from the whites. Their tents are constructed by enclosting poles set in the ground, forming a room of 15 or 20 feet in diameter. The top of the poles are tied together, and the sides are covered with canvas, or skins, or mats made of bark. A hole is left at the top for the smoke to escape.

Their fires are on the ground in the center of the tent, and are kept burning during day and night. Over the fire are hung large wooden hooks on which they boil their samp, roast and smoke their venison, etc. They sleep on blankets or mats spread upon the ground, with little or no protection from the cold. In winter they are rather filthy in their habits, but in summer they have more regard to cleanliness. Playing cards is a favorite pastime with the Indians and it frequently affords them much profit. They are generally more skilled in the use of the "Primers" than the whites who often gamble with them. The chief of the band was absent hunting, much to our regret. He is called "Bradford" by the whites. His Indian name we did not learn. He speaks English well and can read and write. Thanking Capt. Jim for his courtesy, and shaking his hand, we bade him and his companions goodby and left.

George Wyatt of Rockford had a ferry boat in 1858 — used in times of flood — run at the lower ford and worked by ropes and pulleys. Cost of trips were: Double carriage, 35c; single carriage, 25c; man and horse, 10c; on foot 3c.

Floyd county literary talent must include the name of J. Cheston Whitney, County Superintendent of Schools (1860-1863) who contributed "The Counties of Iowa." It was used as part of the opening exercises in the school he taught.

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EARLY HISTORY OF FLOYD COUNTY

Ethel Waller

The earliest history of Floyd county must be read in the fossils, rock strata, deposits of clay, sand and other materials found in various parts of the county. They give evidence that the land long ago was covered by an ocean whose waters were temperate and rather shallow. Many forms of marine life abounded; sponges, corals, fish, etc. The earth was unstable. Sometimes the land rose and the water drained away; again the land subsided and the sea covered it once more. At last the sea receded, never to return. The surface it exposed was barren, naked rocks.

Now occurred a great change. The climate became very cold. Great ice sheets from the arctic regions swept south, grinding down the underlying rocks. Finally the weather became warm. The vast ice sheets melted, resulting in sloughs, peat bogs and gradually the appearance of forests, mainly of cedar and pine, but there were many other kinds of trees. Insects and animal life was abundant and in great variety.

A second glacial period followed, covering Floyd county again with a deep ice sheet. It overrode the forests and sloughs and gave the depth of rich soil that distinguishes the county. In melting it deposited the boulders, large and small, found in many parts of the county. Where cuts have been made in the earth as in opening gravel pits, digging wells, building roads, etc., a wealth of interesting material has been uncovered showing the life buried by the glacier and its melting waters. Near Rockford remains of a mammoth, an immense pre-historic elephant, were discovered in a gravel pit. Similar remains were found near Marble Rock.

Gradually conditions favorable to human life developed. The Mound Builders were first to appear. There is evidence of them in many curious burial mounds they left. Close to Charles City on the Scrimger and Capron farms about thirty of these mounds were found. On being opened they revealed the skeletons of men, women and children and relics of objects they used in peace and war, such as pieces of pottery, arrowheads and ornaments. Mounds have also been opened at Floyd, near old Chickasaw, on Flood Creek, at Rockford, on Lime Creek and near Marble Rock.

EARLY HISTORY (Continued)

Indians followed the Mound Builders. The Winnebagoes were located in Floyd county. They had a sizable village near Bradford and a settlement of some one hundred and fifty tepees where the McKinley school now stands in Charles City. They called this Big Timber village and the river Big Timber River. In 1846 the Indians signed a treaty with the United States government agreeing to remove to Minnesota. However, they were still living at Big Timber when Joseph Kelly arrived in the fall of 1850. The Indians were friendly and never troubled the whites except in begging and sometimes stealing to relieve their poverty. They often camped in what is now known as Oak Park when visiting Charles City.

The Sioux Indians were not friendly like the Winnebagoes. They massacred some white settlers at Spirit Lake, and at New Ulm, Minnesota, awakening alarms in Floyd county, but nothing happened here.

Iowa was admitted as a state in 1846 and, on Jan. 15, 1851, the legislature defined the boundaries of Floyd county, but it was attached for administrative purposes to other counties. In 1854 it was organized as a separate and distinct county. The first election of county officers took place Aug. 7, 1854. The first division into townships occurred in October 1854.

The name Floyd is probably in honor of Sergeant Floyd of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

The earliest census is that for 1856 which shows two thousand four hundred forty-four inhabitants.

In the early days game abounded in this region: Buffalo, elk, bear, wolves, a great variety of fur-bearing animals, wild fowl and fish. Hunters and trappers did a thriving business.

Joseph Kelly, the founder of Charles City, was a hunter and trapper from Wisconsin who traveled through this region. He chose his town site with a view to water power and excellent timber available. When the government opened a land office in Dubuque, he filed a claim on Nov. 7, 1850 for the land on which Charles City now stands. The clerk said to him: "Why man alive! Do you know where this land is?" "I believe I do," replied Mr. Kelly. "Well," said the clerk, "it is worthless to you; it is clear out of this world." "No matter, I will take it," rejoined Mr. Kelly as he pocketed his papers and walked away. He returned to his home

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EARLY HISTORY (Continued)

in Wisconsin and waited till the spring of 1852 to build his saw mill and he didn't begin sawing until 1853.

Meanwhile in the spring of 1850, Ambrose Story located about three miles south of Charles City on what came to be known as the Cook farm. He built a house and was the first man to break ground in Floyd county. His child was the first white child born in the county.

During 1852 about twenty-five families arrived. John Blunt built the first house on the east side of the river, at the southwest corner of Joslin and Hulin streets. Dr. Robert Freeman built the first house on the west side of the river near where McKinley school now stands. His house was also used as a store for general merchandise and a post office. The stage coach coming from Janesville to Osage dropped mail at Freeman.

Freeman was the first village plat laid out in Floyd county, April 8, 1854. It had a public square, now occupied by McKinley school. The original plat of Charles City was dedicated by Joseph and Malinda Kelly and signed Jan. 18, 1855.

Mr. Kelly named the town Charlestown after his son, but found there was another town in the state by this name so he changed to St. Charles. Again it developed that there was already a town by that name, so in 1860 the name again was changed, becoming Charles City.

In 1854 Charles City grew rapidly. A party of capitalists from Rockford, Illinois, bought a large interest in the town from Mr. Kelly so that in 1855 the proprietors of the town were Joseph Kelly, Duncan Ferguson, R. M. Waller, Milo Gilbert, William Hulin, Luke Joslin, R. M. Brantingham and William Sprague. These names are all commemorated in street names.

John Blunt built the first store on the east side and the post office was later transferred from Freeman to it.

The river was crossed by a ford just below the present bridge. A ferry was also needed but there were complaints about ferry charges so on Dec. 19, 1857 plans were agreed on for a bridge to be built on Mill street, now Main street. Several attempts at building wooden bridges were unsuccessful but in 1867 a fairly good bridge was completed. This was replaced in 1870 by a substantial iron bridge.

The first school in Charles City was opened in 1855 in a frame building 18 x 20 feet, standing where Doctors Morris and Baltzell now have their

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EARLY HISTORY (Continued)

offices. Each man paid according to the number of children he sent to school. In 1858 a state law was passed requiring that schools be supported by taxes levied on all assessed property. The first substantial school building was completed in January 1867. It was a stone building standing where Manual Arts building is now. New stone quarries had to be opened to supply material and the lumber had to be hauled from Waverly or Cedar Falls. The cost was $12,000. There were school rooms in the basement and on the first and second floors. The high school was on the second floor until a new high school building was erected in 1895.

The new community promptly felt the need of religious services. Through united effort a church was erected, but the Baptists soon took it over. This oldest church was built in 1858. The Congregationalists erected a church in 1867 and the First Methodists in 1870.

Another need felt by the community was for a newspaper. This was promptly met by the appearance of an experienced newspaper man from the east. A. B. F. Hildreth came in the spring of 1856. He erected a two-story frame building where Sears is now located. The first floor was used for a store; the second was his printing office. On the 31st of July, 1856, he issued the first number of the Republican Intelligencer. The first sheet was auctioned off to an enthusiastic crowd in the street for twenty dollars. The Intelligencer was long an influential paper in the county.

Newcomers received generous hospitality from settlers but lodging was provided for the public first by John Blunt's log hotel then in 1857 by the Magnolia house and Kelly's hotel. Both of these burned in the big fire of 1862, to be succeeded by the Union House (now the Gilbert Hotel) and the Leonard hotel near the depot.

The oldest bank in Charles City was that of Balch and Reiniger organized in 1865. The First National followed in 1871.

The first burials were made on home grounds but the Cemetery Association was organized in 1857 and the site bought for Riverside cemetery. Ever since 1865 faithful and exact records have been kept of all interments. The Ladies Cemetery Association was organized in 1882 to care for and beautify the grounds.

From 1857 on, the establishment of a public library was urged but nothing much was accomp-

lished until 1878 when a reading room was opened. Since then the library has been a growing institution.

Cedar Township gained its name from the fact that the Little Cedar river flows through its center, and with its numerous tributaries drains the township. Cedar township was settled largely by people from New York, Wisconsin and Illinois. First settlers were J. C. Townsend, Elbert Howard and S. M. Howard coming in 1854. Sarah, Elbert's youngest daughter, was the only woman in the community for the first six months.

The first school was kept in the house of W. B. Howard, another early settler, in the winter of 1856 and 1857.

The first religious services were held in the home of Elbert Howard. The Wesleyan Sabbath School was founded in 1855 and will celebrate its Centennial in 1955.

The first permanent settlers in Floyd Township were C. P. Burroughs and H. M. Brown in 1852, who bought out John Clark and a Mr. Sherman who came in 1851. In 1853 a settlement was made at Watertown and the first store in Floyd township opened there by W. M. Gilman. The village of Floyd was laid out in 1855 by James Griffith and Henry C. Tatum. Griffith operated the first saw mill and grist mill in the township. Thomas Sprague opened Floyd's first store in 1855. It was also the post office.

A bitter contest was waged between Floyd and Charles City over the location of the county seat. Floyd claimed it as her due because she was nearer the geographical center of the county. A disputed election caused the matter to be settled by the Supreme court. In 1859 it decided in favor of Charles City.

Niles Township was named after Niles, Michigan. The first settlers were J. B. Dawley, Joseph Beckwith and E. K. Ash who located in 1854.

Pleasant Grove Township was organized in 1867 by petition of Washington Young, an early settler. His wife, Susan Young, bestowed the name. The first school opened in 1857 in a log cabin. The first three log cabins built in the township were those of Peter Heckard, Joseph Gibson and Joseph Ripley.

The earliest settlers in Riverton Township came in 1852 and 1853. They were the Joel Parish and Warburton families. The first school was taught in the winter of '57-'58 in the log cabin built by the

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EARLY HISTORY (Continued)

Warburtons. In 1867 George Carr and James Hopkins erected a saw mill which operated successfully for eleven years. One black walnut log turned out 6,000 feet of lumber worth then about $60 a thousand feet. The township produced considerable sorghum and two sorghum mills were operated. When wheat crops failed, the farmers turned to dairying and two creameries were built — the Riverton Creamery and the Crystal Spring.

The first settler in Rockford Township was John Grace, who built a small cabin near Rockford in 1851. During the same year Jacob Beelar took up a claim but turned it over to a Mr. Brannon. The breaking done by Grace and Brannon in 1852 was the first in the township. In 1854 W. J. Grace and H. Stearns opened farms. Many others followed and in 1856 the town site of Rockford was bought by John Platt, S. P. Brittain, George Wyatt and Willard Bowdoin. The first school house was built in 1857. Two years later a stone school house was built, long the best in the county.

Mr. Wyatt operated a ferry at Rockford. A bridge was built by public subscription in 1858 but it was carried out by ice before completion and was not repaired until 1865. George Wyatt built the first frame house in the township in 1856 and within a year a stone house which he operated as a hotel. He was the first postmaster.

The name Rockford was chosen because many of the first settlers came from Rockford, Illinois.

Rock Grove Township derived its name from the big boulder south of the public park in Nora Springs. William Gray settled in Rock Grove in 1852. Dan Whitsell soon followed and in 1853 broke the first land in the township. The first school house was built in 1854 of logs, about a half mile from Nora Springs. This was the first school house in the county. It burned the spring after it was built but was replaced by another.

Edson Gaylord started a brick yard in 1860. His brick had a wide market. He used the timber from forty acres of land in making brick. The first store in the township was opened at Rock Grove City by F. L. Benedict. The first cabin in Nora Springs was built in 1853 by a Mr. Wilfong. It soon changed hands as settlers came west. The name Nora Springs was suggested by one of the surveyors who platted the town. Nora was the name of his lady love and the springs were found near the village.

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EARLY HISTORY (Continued)

Edson Gaylord settled in Nora Springs in 1853. He built a log cabin 18 x 24 feet without using a nail. It still stands near the substantial brick house he built later.

Rudd Township was set off from Rock Grove and Floyd Townships in 1870. The village of Rudd was platted in 1869 by James Swartwood. He built a hotel and a warehouse. A. L. Plummer built the first store in 1869. The village was originally called Danville but was renamed Rudd in honor of a director of the C. M. & St. P. R. R. who insisted on it and promised in return to give a thousand dollars to the first church built in the town. This promise he broke, denying he ever made it.

Scott Township was set off from Union Township in 1861. The first record of a school was of that taught by Laura Stearns in 1865. A post office named Scott post office was established in the center of the township in 1861. Mrs. Mary Waller was the first postmistress.

Ulster Township was organized in 1858. It was named for Ulster county, New York, from which many of the first settlers emigrated. John Ball was the first to come in December 1853. Three other families soon followed and log cabins were erected in the spring of 1854. The first school was taught in the winter of 1855-56. A grant school house 22 feet square was completed in 1858. The settlers located mostly along Flood Creek.

Union Township's first settler was Jacob Beelar who came in 1850. His family followed the next year. He was first to break land in the township. In 1852 Mr. Beelar entered the land where Marble Rock stands. Mr. Inman in 1852 erected a log cabin near the center of town. The post office was at Waverly, thirty miles away. Four more families came in 1855. The first school was taught in the winter of 1855-'56.

From these sturdy pioneers of yesteryear, we, today reap the rich heritage that is Floyd county.

Bloody Run was not named for a supposed Indian massacre in the early days, but for a bloody fight between the owner of the farm and a threshing crew. The names? O'Hair the owner, Shannon and Lovejoy the threshing crew!

In November of 1854 the first public road was established, known as the Independence and State Line Road. It ran near the Freeman postoffice, through Floyd and on to Minnesota.

INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS

W. E. Dodge

Iowa was admitted to the union of states in 1846, due to a fringe of settlements in the eastern counties bordering on the Mississippi river. Yet the full sweep of immigration over Iowa did not begin until the early eighteen hundred fifties. This delay was caused in part, for the reason that pioneers in those days dreaded to get far from wood and water, and for the added reason that the prairies were then thought to be sour and unproductive.

Slowly these prejudices were broken down and settlers began streaming westward. It was in this period that Bradford in Chickasaw county became the trading post with the Indians and from and through Bradford, the tide of settlement swept westward covering quite completely what is now Floyd County, so that such townships as Riverton were as fully occupied as they are today. The speed of this movement has long been regarded as a miracle for it covered not only Iowa but Missouri and parts of Nebraska and Kansas as well.

The full sweep of the western prairies where no felling of trees and grubbing of stumps stood in the way of furrows a mile long, touched off the imagination of the Iowa farmer and he became a wheat farmer in the full meaning of the word. It was wheat, wheat, wheat everywhere, and by everybody until the soil was depleted of wheat nutriment and the eastern markets glutted by oversupply.

In the early fifties men coming from the east, began to recognize the necessity of diversified action and set about to create power with which to do things, i.e. manufacture. Coal was not in the picture for Iowa at that time, hence water power was the first and most natural resource.

Joseph Kelly was among the first to feel the need for power and his alert eyes saw the rapid flow of the Cedar with its high banks, in what is now Charles City, and at once set about building a dam, to create power to saw logs offered into building material for the many who were seeking shelter for their families.

This search for power was the first step of Charles City's industrial growth, which today places her high in the bracket of cities of her size. Men of vision like Kelly, Hildreth, Gilbert, Ferguson and scores of others sensed the fact that

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INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS (Continued)

the country could not maintain itself on one crop, wheat, and straightaway set about to bring industry to Charles City.

The first break away from wheat was the turn to corn and livestock, a painful process for some, but soon the pastures were full of cattle and the barnyards full of hogs. This movement prompted the building of one of Floyd County's early creameries, erected by S. S. Waterbury on his farm in Riverton township two miles west and over half a mile north of Nashua. The success of this enterprise gave dairying a big boost over the county and other creameries were built soon thereafter.

In the meanwhile the railroads had reached Charles City in the early seventies. The county seat was firmly established here, and the business section of the city soon grew to accommodate the rapid increase in population of the countryside.

With the formation of the Charles City Waterpower Co. and of course having power to sell, it was natural that products such as plows, harrows, and furniture should be made and sold here. A plow factory was built on the southeast corner of what is now north Main and Riverside streets, by Messers. Wooley and Snyder and is presently owned by Mark Ferguson. The business prospered for several years by virtue of its adjustable beam to accommodate the depth of the furrow. Some years later C. A. Sylvester erected the large two-story brick building opposite the City Hall and there made buggies and wagons. In this period of growth M. H. Daly of Belvidere, Ill. came to Charles City and built his disc harrow factory. This building was recently taken over by the city in the furtherance of its parking lot facilities. Mr. Daly later built on upper Main Street just north of the Walsh Manufacturing Co. Just prior to this the German English College, later named Charles City College, moved here from Galena, Ill. A fine building was erected for it on East Clark Street. Sometime prior to this the Boss Harrow Factory was built and operated by a Mr. Howard. It was located in the vicinity of the present Milwaukee depot.

One of the oldest manufacturing plants in the city was developed by Fisher-Stevens Co. the makers of furniture and banking house counters and fixtures. It was later named the Fisher Co. and upon reorganization, became the Charles City Manufacturing Co.

The Hart-Parr Co. established itself in Charles

City in 1900, coming from Madison, Wis. It was financed largely by local capital, the Ellis interests leading off. This company was very successful from the start, first making small stationary gasoline engines but later widening its field with large and small tractors. It is now a part of the Oliver Corporation and employs over 2000 men. This company was instrumental in building the Charles City Western Railway Co., to form a connection with the Rock Island Railroad at Marble Rock. A local street car system was also built and operated for several years as part of the local road which was first operated by gasoline locomotives, but later electrified when it was extended to Colwell. The Charles City Western is unique, as a short line carrier, in as much as it is free of all debt and is paying dividends on its common stocks.

An institution which has grown up to large proportions in Charles City during recent years is the Salsbury Laboratories.

Dr. Joseph Salsbury, a veterinarian, came here from Nebraska as assistant to the late Dr. J. H. McLeod. Dr. Salsbury became interested in chicken culture and in developing his ideas has built up an industry here which employs 400 people working in four separate plants throughout the city. His remedies are sold on a world-wide basis. The labor relations in this plant are excellent.

The Geo. P. Smith Co., once located about where the Goldstein iron yard now stands, was ravaged by fire, being completely destroyed. It had long been a substantial factor in Charles City's growth and was recognized as such. To the end that so valuable an asset might not be lost, Ellis and Ellis, Inc., and N. Frudden with others, decided to rebuild the mill where it now stands. W. H. Fairbanks, a former Charles City lad, was brought in from Cedar Rapids as manager. This wood working concern has been a steady employer of men and its product of sash, doors, blinds and stairs have found ready sale over northern Iowa and southern Minnesota. W. E. Frudden is its present manager, assisted by his son, Dan. No labor problems have ever visited in this plant.

When E. M. Sherman of Fredericksburg, Iowa came to town as a nursery stock salesman, he had visions of a nursery of his own and a yen for the boss's daughter. He married Miss Gertrude Patten the daughter of the late Charles G. Patten, the nation-wide known horticulturist and developer of Patten's Greening apple. Sherman began buying property and soon had 1000 acres of fine land pro-

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INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS

ducing nursery stock which found ready sale over the northern states and much of Canda. This was accomplished through a sales organization set up by the late J. E. Case and followed later by C. C. Smith. The Sherman Nursery Co. specializes in evergreen trees and is said to be the largest grower of the same, west of the Mississippi River. The trees are started from seeds and nursed under shade until able to care for themselves. A fine office building erected out of native stone and a huge packing cellar, said to be the largest in the industry, were erected in Mr. Sherman's lifetime. The nursery and green houses are now owned by the Cashmans, formerly of Owatonna, Minn. who have added much to the nursery.

The Walsh Manufacturing Co. is successor to the Burnham Manufacturing Co. Clark Walsh, formerly of Nashua, Iowa, has greatly expanded the business, introducing new lifting devices of his own patent and distributing in a big way steel corncribs that are in heavy demand in the corn producing area due to the prop that the government has put under corn prices. Mr. Walsh is piloting a factory that will mean much to Charles City's future. Much the same tenor can be said of the Van-Web Equipment Co. whose offices are at the corner of Wisconsin and Riverside Drive.

Other important employers of labor are Jensen Bros. Locker Service with plants in Charles City, Floyd and Colwell; the Heckman-Reynolds excavating and stone crushing plant at Floyd where large quantities of crushed rock are supplied for all building purposes, including contracts for hard surfacing the county and township farm to market road system. In this connection the Rockford Brick and Tile Co., of Rockford must not be overlooked because it produces an excellent product and affords a payroll that Rockford businessmen appreciate. Fossils in the blue clay in the vicinity of Rockford are marine forms substantiating the geological reports that parts of the west half of the county was covered with salt water at least three times, millions of years ago. With the blue clay of the area as a natural resource, and with farsighted, industrious management, the Rockford Brick & Tile Co. has been developed into one of the major industries of the county.

The Artificial Ice Co. is another Charles City enterprise that is broadening the county's importance, for its product goes into many surrounding towns.

(Continued on page 35)

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ROCKFORD BRICK & TILE COMPANY

ROCKFORD, IOWA

CENTURAMA

SCHEDULE O

SUNDAY

RELIGIOUS DAY—

Special Centennial Services in all churches.

MONDAY

HOMECOMING DAY—

All day: Merchants Exhibit Tent open from noon till closing.

All day: Now and then windows—by County merchants.

All day: Registration of old timers at Episcopal Guild Hall.

5:30 p.m.: Gigantic opening day Float Parade.

All day: Carnival and Gay Way.

8:30 p.m.: 1st performance of historical spectacle "Centurama." Crowning of Queen by Lt. Gov. Elthon.

TUESDAY

INDUSTRY DAY—

All day: Now and then windows—by merchants.

All day: Carnival and Gay Way.

8:30 p.m.: 2nd performance of Centurama.

10-12 p.m.: Square dance.

WEDNES

AGRICULTURE, ACHIE AND YOUTH DAY

All day: 4-H Show

All day: Now and th

All day: Carnival a

8:30 p.m.: 3rd perfo "Centurama."

THE FLOYD COUNTY CENTENNIAL, INC

presents

The Magnificent Pageant Spectacle

"CENTURAMA"

A JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCTION

Lion Field

Charles City, Iowa

JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCTION STAFF

DAVID J. EVANS
Managing Director

ARDEN "MOOSE" PETING
Spectacle Producer

A PROGRAM

E OF EVENTS

)NISDAY

E, ACIEVEMENT
TH DA—

I Sho at Cashman's.

w and hen windows.

rnival and Gay Way.
d performance of
a."

THURSDAY

ARMED FORCES DAY—

All day: Exhibit on display, Kelly Street between Main and Jackson.

2:00 p.m.: Armed Forces Day Parade.

All day: Now and then windows.

All day: Carnival and Gay Way.

8:30 p.m.: 4th performance of "Centurama."

FRIDAY

FRATERNAL DAY—

All day: Now and then windows.

All day: Carnival and Gay Way.

All day: Open house from noon until 7:00 p.m. at most headquarters.

8:30 p.m.: 5th performance of Centurama.

8:00 p.m.:Judging of Brothers of the Brush Beards at Lions Field.

SATURDAY

GRAND FINALE DAY—

2:00 p.m.: Grand Finale Parade.

All day: Now and then windows.

All day: Carnival and Gay Way.

Sports Car Rally at Churchill Bowl immediately following Parade.

8:30 p.m.: Last performance "Centurama."

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND CAST

OVERTURE . . . . . Eddie Scofield

Greetings to you as we present the thrilling story of the founding, growth and development of Floyd County.

NARRATORS — Marion Kruck, Russell Suhr, Mrs. Wayne Gauger, John Fisher, Vern Bromberg.

PROLOGUE —

A brilliant scene in which the Centennial Queen, "Miss Centennial," welcomes the audience to the enactment to follow. Surrounded by "The Centennial Princesses," "The States," "Miss Columbia," "The Queen's Cadets," "The American Sailorettes," and "The Nation Queens," the Queen receives the tribute of Her Royal Subjects as She passes down through The Lane of Flags . . .

PAGES TO THE QUEEN — Jennifer Lett, Douglas Van Horn.

NATION QUEENS — Shirley Wheat, Virginia Frascht, Gila Gabel, Gloria Brude, Donna Caruth, Shirley Hansen, Marlene Anderson, Margie Kelm, Charlyne Rademacher, Bonnie Falls.

STATES TO COLUMBIA — Rose Mary Fullerton, Sandra Laudner, Maxine Fredrichs, Jeanne Ginther, Sandra Magilton, Myrna Ward, Marjorie Clark, Janice Magilton, Lola Myers, Marilyn Gruver, Dixie Mellen, Kay Fritschel, Sondra Bissonnette, Sybil Stoner, Berneda Staebler.

CADETS — Laura Mae Ervin, Paula Ervin, Bonnie McCall, Kathy Bluhm, Joan Sales, Rosalie Goddard, Jane Barrett, Karen Halberg, Barbara Brady, Joyce Krumrey, Shirley Demerritte, Dixie Lokenvitz, Barbara Johnson, Lucille Greenzweig.

SAILORETTES — Margaret Thorson, Sharon Kruse, Mary Bierbaum, Beverly Johnson, Cheryl Hirsch, Mary Lokenvitz, Sharon Martin, Nancy Mitchell, Jane Hart, Linda Otto, Beth Boller, Eleanor Frascht, Phyllis Crandall, Leola Hoeft, Nancy Carlson, Olga Bell Fisher, Patty Birkholz, Darlene Hurst, Arlene Voelker, Margie Riden, Judy Blessington, Vera Ives, Barbara Curry.

TRUMPETEERS — Margie Usher, Kay Swartzrock, Sharon Matson, Kay Keating, Jean Otto, Alice Faye Wilhite, Beverly Mead, Virginia Slater, Donna Caruth, Gloria Brude.

MISS COLUMBIA — Marjorie Clark.

MAJORETTE — Sharon Atherton.

GIRL SCOUTS AND BROWNIES — Karen Jensen, Jean Krinkie, Linda Merrill, Lucinda Way, Barbara Ingersoll, Katherine Meyer, Tressa Wallace, Vickie Storck, Connie Immel, Dorothy Uetz, Toni Ann Van Deest, Janan Meyer, Marjorie Usher, Carol Knutson, Kay Swartzrock, Nola Townsend, Karen Kellogg, Mary Kellogg, Nancy Aurand, Lorraine Van Dyke.

BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS — Gary Salsbury, Jesse Walters, Bob Baltzell, Alan Heckman, Mike Dixon, Richard Jensen, Dean Smith, Larry Lumm, Richard Nickerson, Jimmy Self, Allen Steffler, Elmer Waddell.

(Continued on next page)

SYNOPSIS — Continued

EPISODE I. THIS IS THE FLOYD COUNTY STORY

It is to the early pioneer and settler that we are indebted, for it is from these people that we have gained such a rich heritage. It is to these people with their unquenchable spirit, we owe thanks for opening to all men the frontiers of freedom.

PIONEER MEN — Oscar Immer, Arnold Voelker, Kenneth Bluhm, Cecil Galloway, Larry Hirsch, Donald Berk, Almon Lynch.

PIONEER WOMEN — Florence Beekman, Norma Hargrave, Mrs. Almon Lynch, Mrs. Cecil Galloway, Mrs. Oscar Immer, Mrs. Kenneth Bluhm.

PIONEER CHILDREN — Dale Forsyth, Karen Joy Ellis, Robert Nickerson, Kathy Hallberg, Norma Hirsch, Kristeen Hallberg.

EPISODE II. THE MOUNDBUILDERS

Once an ancient people inhabited this land. They were born, ate, drank, loved, fought and died in the valleys and plains. Then, in the same mysterious manner in which they came, they disappeared. Sole reminders of their sojourn are the great earthworks known as the mounds, and since they left no written record, history notes them only as the moundbuilders and places their great works in the same categories as the antiquities of ancient man.

HIGH PRIEST — Marvin Hargrave.

PYRE BEARERS — Louis Peters, Darwin Krumrey.

TORCH BEARERS—Lester Bilharz, Ray Owens, Ramon Snyder, Gene Joerger.

EPISODE III. IN THE LAND OF THE WINNEBAGOES

Much of Floyd County was once the land of the Winnebagoes; here were their wigwams, and here repose the bones of their departed ancestors. Here they paid homage to the Sun-God and to the moon and stars; it was in this land of their fathers they hunted, feasted and followed the pursuits of free children of nature. Warring when intruded upon, closing the conflict with the peace pipe. Families lived, lovers mated, old men with years full of wisdom, shivered awhile at the campfire . . . and then passed on to the land of the Great Spirit.

CHIEFS — Morrie Thelen, Willy Hangartner.

PRINCESS — Beverly Shaw.

FLUTE PLAYER — Jerry Jung.

FLUTE SOLOIST — Sharon Atherton.

BRAVES — Lester Lincoln, Butch Barr, Gary Grant, Raymond Snyder, Clarence Jensen, Danny Dugan, Bob Sullivan, Duane Forsyth, Joe Bever, Bobby Inman, Dick Sharp, Keith Inman, Darwin Pepper, Pepper Hild, Jim Larsh.

SQUAWS — Ivadelle Messerlie, Celeste Harlis, Virginia Thompson, Belva Nicholson, Bernice Klink, Esther K. Otto, Shirley Tisch, Elizabeth Hargartzer, Louise Huxsol, Mrs. Bernard Faught, Irma Hungerford.

INDIAN BOYS — David Kirkham, Florence Dorland, Larry Faught, Jimmy Jo Barr.

INDIAN GIRLS — Barbara Hungerford, Mariel Hall, Janet Faught, Linda Faught.

EPISODE IV. THE LEGEND OF THE BIG ROCK

Mid-western people as a rule are interested in the romantic lore of the red man, and in view of the fact, Indian tradition has its own particular place in our county's background. When Iowa Indians roamed our prairies, they often camped on the banks of the river in what now is Nora Springs. Not far from this camp was the "big rock" on the edge of the woodland glade. Such a big stone, the Indians thought, must be endowed with a secret power.

CHIEF MOON-FACE — Darwin Pepper.

WA-WE-TA — Beverly Shaw.

RED-FEATHER — Raymond Snyder.

KAOMAH — Jerry Jung.

EPISODE V. A NEW PEOPLE TO A NEW LAND

As soon as the land was officially opened for settlement in 1850, people lured by the promise of the region came to establish homes and tame the vast wilderness. Bidding goodbye to friends and relatives in the settled East they loaded possessions and families into covered wagons and the search for a home beyond the frontier was on!

TEAMSTERS — Harlan Grap, Bob Mitchell, Robert Crooks.

PREACHER — Reverend Belling.

A. W. STORY — Oscar Immer.

MRS. A. W. STORY — Mrs. Oscar Immer.

THE STORY CHILDREN — Kristine Hallberg, Robert Nickerson.

PIONEER MEN — Dick Sharp, Larry Hirsch, Donald Benk, John Sherman, Jim Mitchell, Jim Crosk, Gary Mills,

David Gauger, Duane Forsyth, Arnold Voelker, Cecil Galloway, Kenneth E. Bluhm, Allen A. Andres, Almon Lynch, Charlie Vala, Gary Vala.

PIONEER WOMEN — Norma Hargrave, Eva Mae Crooks, Dorothy Sherman, Marilyn Beekman, Margie Quade, Mary Mitchell, Sharon Adams, Elaine Henry, Leona Hallberg, Olive Ellis, Florence Beekman, Patricia Byrne, Nancy Springer, Geraldine Hagarty, Elaine Springer, Leda Galloway, Evelyn Bluhm, Loretta Andres, Elva Lynch.

PIONEER CHILDREN — Norma Hirsch, Dale Forsyth, Karen Joy Ellis, Kristeen Hallberg, Kathleen Hallberg, Patty Ellis.

EPISODE VI. THE JOSEPH KELLY STORY

Soon after the settlement was effected by Mr. Story, there came Joseph Kelly, in the middle of the summer of 1850, locating where now stands Charles City. Kelly was a noted hunter and a miller by trade. He came to this region with his 12-year old son for whom he later named the settlement, Charles Town. The site he chose was a beautiful one and was directly opposite a Winnebago village of about one hundred and fifty wigwams, having the name Timber River Village.

JOSEPH KELLY — Cecil Galloway.

CHARLES KELLY — Gary Vala.

INDIAN CHIEF — Morrie Thelen.

BRAVES — Raymond Snyder, Jerry Jung.

SQUAWS — Ivadelle Messerlie, Mariel Hall.

CLERK — Allen Andres.

INDIAN CHILDREN — Larry Faught, David Kirkham, Linda Faught.

EPISODE VII. JUST ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

In 1854 when there were about a hundred legal voters in the county, most of whom were in St. Charles and Floyd and their immediate vicinities, a determined effort was made to locate the County Seat.

Cast Doubled from Scene V.

EPISODE VIII. REMEMBER THE SABBATH

It was over the winding trails, down the river and across the forests to what was their new homes that our ancestors brought with them their courage and fortitude and another priceless gift . . . THEIR FAITH IN GOD.

PREACHER — Reverend Belling.

PREACHER'S WIFE — Mrs. Kenneth Bluhm.

WAGON DRIVER — Mr. Robert Crooks.

BUCKBOARD DRIVER — Bob Mitchell.

PRIESTS AND ALTAR BOYS —

EPISODE IX. READIN', 'RITIN' AND 'RITHMETIC

Many of the early settlers of Floyd County were people of limited education, but education of their children was never neglected even from the earliest times. The first school house in the county was erected in the spring of 1854 near Nora Springs. It was a log structure and like most school houses in the newly settled West was poorly furnished. The second school was located in Charles City, and the third at Floyd.

TEACHER — Henry J. Kaldenberg.

BAD BOY — Teddy Trainer.

SCHOOL BOYS — Ernie Uetz, Jerry Starkey, John Reveland, Tommy Trainer, John Peters, David Peters, Gary Hedrick, Gary Woodworth.

SCHOOL GIRLS — Janice Starkey, Joan Starkey, Karla Hallberg, Kathy Hallberg, Jean Krinkie, Nola Hedrick, Sharon Uetz, LaVonne de Merritt.

GRADUATES — Janice Magilton, Rosemary Fullerton, Myrna Ward, Maxine Fredericks.

FOOTBALL PLAYER — Darwin Pepper.

TENNIS PLAYER — Jeannie Ginther.

CHEER LEADER — Sandra Magilton.

BASKETBALL PLAYER — Dick Herbrechtmeyer.

EPISODE X. THE FIRST WEDDING

Weddings were always of interest to the entire community . . . and a wedding was always a festive occasion attended by neighbors from miles around . . . looked forward to with eager expectation by young and old. . . . But the first wedding in the county was a very simple affair. It happened in the John Blunt home when on February 12, 1854, Roxanna Blunt was married to William Flint.

ROXANNA BLUNT — Mrs. Oscar Immer.

WILLIAM FLINT — Mr. Oscar Immer.

PREACHER — Reverend Belling.

DORCUS BLUNT — Mrs. Charles Ellis.

BEST MAN — Charles Valla.

BOARDERS — Norma Hargroal, Karen Ellis, Patty Ellis.

PEDDLER — Arnold Voelker.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN BLUNT — Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Galloway.

BRIDE — Mrs. Roland LaBarge.

GROOM — Mr. Roland LaBarge.

BRIDESMAIDS — Anna Kiess, Sharlene Sweet, Rita Staebler, Shirley Rowley.

(Continued on next page)

SYNOPSIS — Continued

BEST MEN — Louis Peters, Lester Bilharz Jr., Darwin Krumrey, Lou Tetzloff.

GUESTS — Don Mitchell, Gesse Joeger, Albert Lillick, Jim Walde, Jerry Jung, Bob Sullivan, Carole Hauser, Carol Gayther, Kay Otto, Sharon Cummings, Audrey Staley, Anna Mae Lillick.

EPISODE XI. THE BLOODY RUN FEUD

That mysterious wooded ravine and brooklet crossed by the paved highway about two and one-half miles south of Charles City has its spooky and weird history handed down for more than 75 years that grows on the imagination as time passes into history and with different explanations concerning its origin. As we have descendants of the participants in that tragedy still among us who have the story as handed down to them from their sires, we will tell the story of how Bloody Run got its name.

MR. O'HAIR — Albert Lillick.

MRS. O'HAIR — Anna Mae Lillick.

THE O'HAIR BOYS — Loy Tetzloff, Darwin Krumrey, Lester Bilharz Jr., Louis Peters, Don Mitchell, Loren Brown.

LOVEJOYS AND SHANNONS — Jessie Staley, Jerry Jung, Gene Joerger, Bob Sullivan.

EPISODE XII. A VOLUME IN BLACK

Abraham Lincoln becomes president. . . . There is uneasiness in the Union! December, 1860 South Carolina secedes from the Union! January, 1861 other Southern states follow in secession. WAR, A WAR OF REBELLION.

CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS — Marlin Zilm, George Mitchell, Jim Walde, Bill Jensen, Marvin Hargrave, Ray Snyder, Ray Owens, Dan Dugan.

WIDOW BROWN — Margaret Meyer.

WIDOW BROWN'S SON — Bill Jensen.

ANN — Carole Hauser.

DRUMMER — Marsha Arhart.

LINCOLN — Morrie Thelen.

GRANT —

LEE —

EPISODE XII. THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

After the Civil War all resumed its normal pace in Floyd County. The years of reconstruction were long and hard; for farms and homes had been neglected during the years when the country was fighting for the Union. The recovery period was brought about early to Floyd County by the coming of the railroad; THE GREAT IRON HORSE.

BAND — Floyd Schools.

RAILROAD WORKERS — Dick Herbrechtmeyer, Jim Larsh, Darwin Pepper, Pepper Hild.

LADY IN DISTRESS — Shirley Rowley.

HELPFUL HARRY — Loy Tetzloff.

RUN-ABOUT DRIVER — Darwin Krumrey.
Cast doubled from Scene X.

EPISODE XIII. BIKES, BUSTLES AND MUSTACHES

The period of the 90's was the decade of the telephone, the bicycle built for two, and the "Horseless Carriage." Women adopted gay and fantastic fashions; it was the day of the hour-glass figure and the Merry Widow hat. It was the period of the bustle and "every girl was a Gibson Girl." It was the day of the tintype, the handlebar mustache, the bathing beauties, the Sunday band concerts and the very naughty "Can-Can."

POLICE GAZETTE GIRLS — Cleola Bernard, LaVonne Kamin, Helen Webster, Alice Sartor, Vivian Gehl, Gayle Cordle.

SURREY DRIVER — Ivan Achenbach.

BATHING BEAUTIES — Lois Swinton, Joan Doore, Marva Wedeking, Marietta Sylvester, Jeanne Holland, Joan Ries.

LIFE GUARDS —

TEETER-TOTTER GIRLS — Jean Otto, Beverly Mead, Alice Faye Wilhite, Virginia Slater.

COMIC COP — Clarence Morgan.

MAYOR — Jack Adanis.

TANDEM BIKE COUPLE — Wayne and Carol Parcher.

BIG BIKE MAN — Edmund Voyna.

PRESBYTERIAN PICNIC — Mrs. M. L. Nicholson, Lester Burnett, Edith Burnett.

BADMINTON GIRLS—Linda Anderson, Ellen Morgan.

CROQUET COUPLES — Donna Caruth, Gloria Brude.

AUTO WOMAN — Delia Markle.

AUTO MAN — Roscoe Markle.

SUFREGETTES — Vera Achenbach, Estella Adams.

MEDICINE MAN — Morrie Thelen.

CAN-CAN GIRLS — Shirley Wheat, Virginia Frascht, Bonnie Falls, Margie Kelm, Charlyne Rademacher, Marlene Anderson, Shirley Hansen, Beverly Shaw.

ELMER — Roy Nelson.

MINNIE — Mrs. Dorothy Slater.

LADY IN RED — Mrs. Lois Otto.

CAMERA MAN — M. L. Nicholson.

GAY 90's CHILDREN—Trudy Riordan, Linda Anderson.

GAY 90's WOMEN — Kay Fritschel.

EPISODE XIV. TO THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY

The year is now 1917 and America is going to war. Floyd County watched her volunteers enlist. The newspaper and Minute Men whipped up enthusiasm for the Liberty Loan Drives. Troop trains pulled out from the Charles City depot to the tune of "Over There." Gold Star flags began to appear, and vaudeville performers drew cheers with "Tipperary." And then . . . then it was all over and a measure of peace returned.

NURSE — Leona Smith.

BUGLER — Louis Peters.

SOLDIER — Darwin Krumrey.

SAILOR — Loy Tetzloff.

(Continued on next page)

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PRINTING COMPANY
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ONE BLOCK NORTH OF THE POST OFFICE
CHARLES CITY, IOWA

SYNOPSIS — Continued

EPISODE XV. THE ROARING TWENTIES

Just when you think that people should settle down to plain living, a new era began. . . . Women bobbed their hair. . . . Men made gin in the bath tub. . . . Home brew was the cat's pajamas. . . . And everyone danced the Charleston.

DANCERS — Sondra Bissonnette, Dick Herbrechtmeyer, Sybil Stoner, Darwin Pepper, Berneda Staebler, Pepper Hild, Carole Wedemeyer, Jim Larsh.

EPISODE XVI. SEIGE OF FREEDOM

December the 7th, 1941 . . . Once again the god, Thor, demanded human sacrifice and blood. Once again Floyd County citizens rolled up their sleeves and bore their share of hardship, freely and willingly as they had done through the long years.

MARINES —

EPISODE XVII. HALL OF FAME

It is with great pride that we salute these people with a fierce and distinct pride for contributing to the Floyd County Hall of Fame . . . Carrie Lane Chapman Catt . . . C. G. Patten . . . Hart and Parr . . . Robert Fullerton . . . Azro B. F. Hildreth . . . The Maharah Brothers . . . The Weatherwax Quartet.

EPISODE XVIII. THE GREAT WHEEL OF PROGRESS

Before you a great wheel of progress is taking form. With Floyd County as its hub. . . . With each spoke carved from one of her past achievements, we see Floyd County serving the nations of the world. . .

Entire Cast.

COLORGUARDS — From the American Legion and V. F. W.

HORSEMEN AND WOMEN — Jerry Mahan, Skipper Ellery, L. R. Ellery, Eleanor Buttjer, Janice Chandler, Darlene Hurst, Arline Voelker, L. E. Spurbeck, Anita Wilson.

SOLOISTS — Clarence Eppard, Charlotte Smith, Carolyn Boleng.

ORGANIST — James Smith.

1911 automobile prices, F.O.B.: 40 HP Colby Touring Car, $1750; Hudson, Maxwell, Overland and Oldsmobile, 31 models ranging in price from $600 to $5,000. The Michigan line of automobiles, regarded as a $2,500 to $3,000 value had a F.O.B. price of about $1,500. These cars were designed and built for road conditions anywhere. High wheels, graceful lines, comfortable and easy riding. 33 to 40 HP 4-cylinder motor, and were said to be as silent as time. The Michigan automobile was sold by the Charles City Buggy and Auto Company, Emil Theno, Mgr.

INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATIONS (Cont'd from page 26)

The Peerless Photo Finishing Co. does a fine work; covers a wide mail order business and employs a score or more female help in Charles City. Jack Olson is the owner and operator of the old Moss Machine Shop on Riverside Drive. He is filling an important need among machinery users.

The outlook is promising for future growth of the manufacturing enterprise in Charles City and Floyd County. In the former, an active, vigorous Chamber of Commerce is making a bid for new factories and is backing its invitation with real money to provide building sites, trackage, power and water connections. An enviscerating plant keyed to the turkey industry is about to be announced. It will be located on Charles City Western Railway grounds and trackage at the eastern edge of the city. Erection of a large plant capable of employing upwards of 100 people awaits the city's move to provide a roadway and city water and sewer facilities.

COUNTIES OF IOWA

J. Cheston Whitney (Before 1882)

Our home is in Iowa, westward toward the setting sun.
Just between two mighty rivers, where the flowing waters run;
It has towns and it has cities, it mas many noble streams.
It has ninety-nine counties, and we'll join to sing their names.
Lyon, Osceole, Dickinson, where the Spirit Lake we see;
Emmet, Kossuth and Winnebago, Worth, with its Lake Albert Lee.
Mitchell, Howard and Winneshiek, and Allamakee so fine,
Make eleven northern counties on the Minnesota line.
Clayton, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton, together with Scott and Muscatine.
Lee, Louisa and Des Moines on the eastern line is seen;
Van Buren, Davis and Appanoose, Decatur, Ringgold, Wayne we spy;
Taylor, Page and Fremont, that on Missouri's line lie.
Pottawattamie, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Woodbury, Plymouth, Sioux
Are all the counties that around the border of our state we view.
Next we point you to O'Brien, Palo Alto too, and Clay,
Hancock, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, now see Chickasaw, I pray.
Fayette, Bremer, Butler, Franklin, next upon the map we see;
Wright and Humboldt, Pocahontas, Buena Vista, Cherokee,
Ida, Sac, Calhoun and Webster, Hamilton with names so rare;
Next is Hardin, Grundy, Blackhawk, and Buchanan, Delaware.
Jones, Linn, Benton, Tama, Marshall, Story, Crawford, Carroll, Boone,
(Let us not your patience weary, we shall have them all told soon).
Cedar, Greene, Johnson, Iowa with Poweshiek by the same;
Here is Jasper, Polk and Dallas, Names of Presidential fame.
Guthrie, Audubon and Shelby, Cass and Madison, Adair,
Warren, Marion and Mahaska, and Keokuk, too, is there;
Henry, Jefferson and Wapello, Monroe, Washington we missed;
Lucas, Clarke, Union, Adams, and Montgomery fills the list.

Verses and information found p.592-593 FLOYD COUNTY HISTORY written by W. P. Gaylord in 1882. J. Cheston Whitney was a former county superintendent and taught several terms of school in Floyd County in Charles City in 1860-1862.

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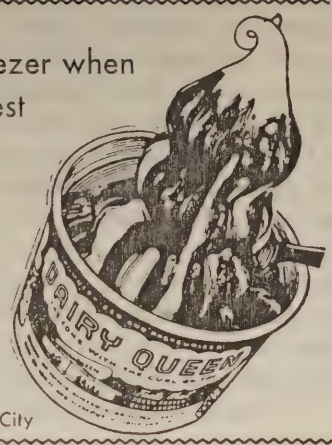

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"RAILS" OF FLOYD COUNTY

Frank Korinke

Soon after the prairie was broken in 1850 by Ambrose W. Story, pioneer settlers needed some type of transportation for their produce to the eastern markets. These early farmers had to haul their grain, hogs and other produce to McGregor, the nearest market town, on the Mississippi River, a distance of 100 miles, or to Dubuque 150 miles. Both routes meandered through open prairie, around sloughs and over the hills of the west bank of the "great" river. No roads, no bridges and no highway signs aided the team and driver on his way. This trip took as much as a week to and from market; the farmer carrying his own provisions, sleeping in or under his wagon in order to practice the greatest economy. The return trip made possible the provision of supplies for the weeks and months ahead until the next harvest or the next urgent need. Commodities purchased were in the line of groceries and staples, hardware, lumber, dry goods and shoes and only the few luxuries that pioneers could afford. Railroads were dearly needed in this new and productive county.

As "rails" came to Cedar Falls and Waverly, farmers and merchants went to these terminals to sell and buy. This eased the travel problem for purchasing merchandise and the sale of farm products. It was the hope of the town proprietors of St. Charles City that some point, preferably the county seat, might become a terminal of a railroad, where people from other places could come for supplies brought in by this means, while railroads were building on out of St. Charles to reach beyond to new fields.

Late in 1867 the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad (now the Illinois Central) ground to a stop in Charles City. Today this road serves Charles City, and Floyd. Two years later the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad (now the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific) was constructed to our doorstep serving Charles City, and on west to Rudd and Nora Springs. 1871 saw the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railroad (now the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific) enter the county bringing freight and passenger service to Marble Rock, Rockford and Nora Springs. The infant in the "rail" system of Floyd County is the Charles City Western Railroad. This was built and incorporated in Charles City in 1910. The purpose was to provide a link with the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific at Marble Rock. In 1915 it was

"ALL ABOARD" — CHARLES CITY WESTERN RAILROAD

extended to serve the new town of Colwell and today carries freight to and from these extremities through Charles City. The early locomotives carrying freight on this line were coal burning and those for passenger service used gasoline motor cars. On its extension to Colwell the conversion to electricity was made.

Wood burning engines of the early Illinois Central Railroad were converted to coal, as supplies of wood dwindled, and coal was more easily furnished. Charles City had its water tanks, coal and wood sheds, and even a turntable for turning engines in these early days; all, long since disappeared. Many, however, will remember the large, round, balloon-top shaped smoke stacks of the early engines, and their change to more streamlined and straight stacks. They have, for the most part, ceased to belch smoke far and wide over the prairies.

Brakes, too, saw changes as the years moved on. Both freight and passenger cars had to be stopped with hand brakes, the brakeman walking over the top of the cars and setting the brakes as the train approached the station. Brakes for the passenger cars were on the platforms and had to be set by the hand method. Some years afterward, air brakes were invented and took over the braking of the cars of a train, and added much to the smoothness with which a train approached a station.

Early cars were coupled together with a link and pin, another hand operation. The long, oval-shaped link was held in place by a straight foot

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long pin. This system was in effect until the invention of the automatic coupler came into operation.

Coaches were heated by coal burning stoves in each end of the car. Lights were made possible by kerosene lamps, and finally replaced by electric lights.

Freight cars were small in length and capacity, only 28-30 feet long and with a capacity of 10-20 tons. Today's cars are giants in comparison; up to 60 feet long and with a capacity of as much as 70 tons.

The first two railroads into Floyd County and Charles City had separate express service: The American Express Company and the Wells-Fargo Express Company. In later years they were consolidated into one agency, the Railway Express Company.

Passengers needing to go from one station to another, were carried by buses similar to early stage coaches, with the driver sitting on the high seat up front. The U. S. Mail was carried on top of these buses, held in place as was the baggage, by a rail around the top.

Yes, Floyd County has seen progress in the last 100 years. Railroads have contributed their rightful share to this county in the middle of the vast country between two oceans. She has passed through the infancy stage in transportation and ranks with others in ability to carry her "goods" to the markets of the world.

A. B. F. Hildreth received Dec. 24, 1863 a letter from William H. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States, informing that the "Charles City Intelligencer" had been selected to publish the Acts, Resolutions and orders passed during the first session of the 38th Congress, and also of all Public Treaties ratified by the United States, except Indian treaties. Compensation was $1.00 per page.

The great fire of 1862 in Charles City burned both sides of Mill (Main) Street from Kelly to Clark, destroying two hotels and nine businesses.

THE FARMING INDUSTRY IN FLOYD COUNTY

Dorothy Lambert Bernice L. Lambert

Since the basic industry of Floyd county is agriculture, no history of the county would be complete without the story of farming. Pioneer farming was primitive, but as the years moved along many changes developed, until today Floyd county ranks with the best.

In 1850, Floyd county was unnamed. It's boundaries were not defined. It was not until October 1854 that any part of it was divided into townships. The half of the county lying east of Range 16 was thrown into market in 1850; and was known as the "Turkey River District" with offices in Dubuque. The part lying west of Range 16 was in the Des Moines District, later the Fort Dodge District. This was thrown into the market four years later. By Legislative Act in 1851, the name Floyd was given to this county.

When the first settlers arrived in 1850 there was little evidence that any white man had been here before them, an exception being the markers, corner stones and records left by the surveyors. County surveying started in 1848 and continued until 1853.

Trees were found growing only along the rivers; oaks being the most numerous. There were no so-called "evergreens" except the red cedar growing along the streams. Black walnut, butter nut, cottonwood, basswood, maple, ash, elm and poplars were found in varying numbers. Black and red raspberries, wild plums, strawberries, black berries and crab-apples grew in abundance. Various grasses covered the prairies. Many of these seemed to turn to patches of weeds, when the horses and cattle had pastured on them for a few years.

Buffalo, elk and deer were abundant for several years, and for a while, black bear were found in the woods. Prairie chicken and quail were also plentiful. Wolves and coyotes were numerous enough to be a hindrance to the settlers.

Most of the earliest settlers to Iowa came originally from the older states of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. It was their hope to get more productive land than could be had in their home state.

The typical pioneer drove a pair of oxen hitched to a covered wagon. In the wagon were the household goods, clothing, cooking utensils, hand and garden tools and probably a one or two

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FARMING INDUSTRY (Continued)

shovel plow for breaking the prairie soil. Often a cow was led behind. He probably stopped for a stock of provisions after crossing the Mississippi at Dubuque or McGregor. If others had come to the same locality before him they were glad to help him select a tract of land not yet filed upon. The early settlers were noted for their hospitality and willingness to help each other. This same characteristic shows itself today as neighbor helps neighbor, in need of more hands, or in distress.

Land could be bought by the settler for $1.25 per acre. One could also "prove up" on a certain amount without buying from the government. War veterans were granted a certain amount, usually 80 acres, for a home. Speculators were limited to 160 acres to be purchased from the Land Office. At least one partly improved farm was sold for five dollars an acre. This included the standing crops.

Ambrose W. Story, who came in the spring of 1850, was our first real settler by breaking ground for crops. The foundation of his log house is still visible on the farm owned and occupied by Fred Krumrey. By 1852 settlers were coming rather rapidly, and by the end of 1858 all land in the county had been filed upon. Much of this was in the hands of the ever present speculators.

Before improving any land, the early farmer had first to provide shelter for his family. This first home was of logs. These helpful neighbors came to the rescue and a home of sorts could be ready to live in by nightfall. Trees of uniform size had been cut into logs 12-15 feet long and hauled to the site of the new home. Each end of every log was saddled and notched so that they would fit closely together. The walls were usually built to a height of 7 or 8 feet. Gables were formed by gradually shortening the logs at each end of the building above the eaves. The roof was made of poles laid about 18 or 20 inches apart. These were shingled with clap boards split from four-foot lengths of oak, and held in place with poles laid over them. The chimney was built in one end of the house with either stones and mortar or of sticks and clay. The fire place was often about eight feet wide to accommodate the cooking and heating needs of the family. Chinks between the logs in the walls were later filled in, first, with thin strips of wood and then daubed over with wet clay. The windows were small, with panes of either glass or greased paper, or even greased deerhide.

The door was made of clap-boards pinned to wooden cleats and hung on wooden hinges and held with a wooden latch.

Furniture, mostly homemade, consisted of the bed fastened to the wall in one corner of the room, a large table, splint bottom chairs and stools, and a rude cupboard. In another corner would be a large and a small spinning wheel. A few of these log cabins were lived in as late as 1900. With the building of the first sawmills in 1855 the log houses were gradually replaced with frame and with bricks which were being developed in the county. Larger and more comfortable homes were the result. These, with the native stone houses are still in evidence and in use.

Cooking utensils in the pioneer home consisted of a large iron kettle, a long handled frying pan, a covered iron spider and a deeper cast iron kettle and cover. The latter, so called "dutch oven" was used for the baking. The chief articles of diet in early times could be easily prepared in these utensils. Corn bread, hominy or samp, batter cakes, venison, pork, wild honey, maple sugar and syrup, pumpkin (dried and fresh), turkey, prairie chicken, squirrel or other game and vegetables in season were the bill of fare. Wheat bread, tea, coffee and fruit were luxuries unless raised by the farmer himself.

Many families kept a few sheep, and raised some flax for linen and hemp for rope and twine. From the wool and linen, the womenfolks spun and wove the woolens for the "homespun" clothing; and made the household linens. The linsey-woolsey, so prized for women's dresses was made by weaving woolen threads on a warp of linen thread.

Before 1856 corn was usually planted with a hoe. Small grain was planted by hand, often while riding on a horse's back. Corn was cut and shocked by hand. Grain was cradled or cut by a reaper from which it had to be raked by hand. Binding was done by hand. Oats were either fed in the bundle or threshed with a flail. Cultivating was done with a walking cultivator, or with a hoe. Drags were narrow and rigid.

Next came the self raking reaper, the two-horse riding cultivator, the drill and grain seeder, the horse drawn hand planter and much larger drags. It was not until the 1870's that John Deere, John Lane & James Oliver standardized the steel mouldboard plow.

The first settlers made some of their market

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FARMING INDUSTRY (Continued)

trips to Dubuque. Hogs were butchered and frozen, and grain and hides were probably taken to be traded for needed goods and equipment.

McGregor was the next market place until the railroads were built farther west of the river to provide nearer shipping points. The longer trips to market required a week or more over crude roads, and often dangerous fords in the rivers. Meantime the burden of caring for the household and stock fell to the womenfolk and the children.

In 1858 Floyd county had a population of about 4000. By 1865 it had grown to 4886, and by 1870 it was in the neighborhood of 11,000.

Early importers of pure-bred stock include the following: In 1856 Z. M. Knapp of Rockford brought in the first Devon cattle, seven in number. Other importers of the same breed were Stephen Brittion in 1858 and Dr. D. W. Bemis in 1860, also of Rockford. Later, R. W. Humphrey, Judge Wm. B. Fairfield and the Neinstedt brothers imported a larger number of Shorthorn cattle as well as Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and Clydesdale horses. A. W. Cook between the years of 1874-76 imported a large number of the first Norman Percheron horses brought into the State of Iowa and Floyd county.

Farm organizations have been active since the first days of the history of the county. The Floyd County Agricultural Society, first of its kind, was organized in 1859. They organized and held the first fair on October 5 and 6 of that year. It held fairs in different parts of the county until 1878. Re-organization changed the name to Floyd County Agricultural and Mechanical Ass'n. Fairs were held regularly, by them, until the early 1900's.

Other societies in the county were Floyd County Stock and Dairymens Association on December 31, 1880. Chapters of the Grange operated in various parts of the county between 1872 and 1877. In 1879 the Floyd County Farmers Mutual Insurance Co. was organized. This is the first of early organizations, still operating. In 1916, the Charles City Chamber of Commerce cooperated with farmers of the county to form the Floyd County Agricultural Society. At their first meeting April 6, 1916, W. A. Dickenson was hired as our first county agent and the following officers were chosen: President, F. L. Lambert; Vice President, Loren Inman; Secretary, H. V. Fussell, and Treasurer, F. E. Raisty. This society was later renamed the Floyd County Farm Bureau in 1920 and is at present affiliated with the state and national organizations. It is through this means that extension education

is brought to all people of our county. Farm Bureau has a three-fold program of legislation, education and services.

Since the year 1850 we have developed our county from an area of wooded streams and trackless prairie to the prosperous and modern community that it is today. Probably we have made half of all this advancement in just the last twenty years. We use larger and more complex machines in greater numbers on the average farm than before. High-line power with its many uses, including radio and television is now the general rule. We have chemicals for insects and disease control, and other chemicals to aid in eradicating weeds, and even brush and trees. Hybrid varieties of corn, oats, legumes and grasses are considered a "must" for highest yields. We use added vitamins, antibiotics and other synthetics in our livestock rations for health and more rapid gains. Luxuries of yesterday have become the necessities of today.

Nearly all farms in our rural areas are served by crushed rock surfaced, all weather highways. Rubber mounted implements and big wagons, as well as autos and trucks make for faster and easier production. Our markets are now more easily reached, and adequate for the great surplus we produce.

In the last century we have lost much of our essential top soil. Much of our lighter soil areas and more sloping fields have already been seriously eroded. The Floyd County Soil Conservation Service, organized in 1947 has already accomplished a great deal. But we still need to think more of the future and use more soil conservation measures, if our children and their children are to have the same high standard of living that we enjoy.

"Soil conservation concerns the man who lives on the rich farm; it concerns the man who lives on a poor farm; and it also concerns the man who lives in a city."

Some contracts for township and range maps as developed by surveyors of Floyd county were made as early as July 1848 at the Surveyor General's office in Dubuque.

A very reliable map of Floyd county was drafted and published in 1878. It was drawn on a scale of one and three-fourths miles to the inch. It was a subscription work and sold for $12 a copy.

First government weather station was in Union Township above Marble Rock. The volunteer station in Charles City was opened in 1876.

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RELIGION IN EARLY FLOYD COUNTY

Charlotte Magdsick

The inherent religious instincts and earlier training of Floyd County settlers from the eastern part of the country and from Europe found satisfaction in the very beginning as itinerant clergy traveled through this area of the midwest to minister to the spiritual needs of the people and to found, where advisable, societies of different denominations. The good works, brotherhood, and the good music they fostered counteracted the rough atmosphere of pioneer life and gave meaning to its struggles.

The first sermon preached in the county was one by John Ball, a Methodist, May 31, 1854 in the unfinished log barn of John Howard heated by a kettle of charcoal. This led to a Methodist society organization in October, 1855 in Charles City. Its first and present building of native limestone in Gothic style was begun in 1867. Also in 1854 the Grace Methodist church of Floyd formed a class and organized in 1857. It has been the only church in continuous service in that community. Methodists organized in Rockford in 1857, in Nora Springs in 1867, and in Rudd in 1875. Here an early German-speaking congregation of the same faith was united with them. The West St. Charles and Flood Creek Methodist churches used the German language until after 1900. One founded in Rock Grove township in 1870 was absorbed by Nora Springs. The Central Methodist church of Charles City was also originally a German church organized in 1864, and from 1891 to 1914 was closely connected with Charles City College. The present building is dated 1903.

The Baptists of Charles City organized in July, 1855 and built the first church structure in the county in 1858. With additions it is still in use, and is now in the process of an excellent expansion program. A month later in 1855 the Rockford Baptist church was organized in the little village school house. The Rock Grove group was organized in 1854 and moved to Nora Springs in 1880. The Rudd church of 1878 has been discontinued. The active church in Marble Rock organized in 1876 and erected a building in 1898.

Many prominent families have been members of the first Congregational society begun in Charles City in 1858 under the leadership of Rev. J. H. Windsor. The first building was erected in 1879. The present one of Norman architecture was built

in 1910. One organized in Colwell in 1893 functions as an outstanding community center. Congregational societies founded in Nora Springs in 1856 and in Rockford in 1858 have been absorbed by other denominations. A Presbyterian church was organized in Floyd in 1870. The faith and policy of the Presbyterians and Congregationalists are similar. There are now no Presbyterian churches in the county.

The Christian church of Charles City was organized in 1862. The building of native limestone at the corner of Clark and Jackson streets was the first place of worship of this congregation. The building now used was dedicated in 1907. It had been erected in 1890 by the Universalist church, no longer active here. The Christian church of Nora Springs was organized in 1891.

The Evangelical United Brethren church of Nora Springs dates back to 1870. German Evangelical churches begun in Charles City in 1895 have been discontinued, as have an 1889 Christian church in Marble Rock, an early Christian Advent church in Floyd, and the Baptist church in Rockford.

In the Howardville Wesleyan Methodist church, founded in 1858 and stemming from a Sunday School in 1856-57, is a handsewn flag of our country made by the Ladies Aid Society led by Betsy Bennett during the Civil war. The church of the same denomination in Charles City dates from 1913.

The Christian Science church in Charles City was formed in 1893. The Salvation Army began work here in 1899.

As early as 1867, a lay leader conducted a Protestant Episcopal service in Charles City. The courageous group has at different periods been served by lay leaders, as part of another parish, and by resident clergy. In 1901 it was organized as a parish, the building was constructed in 1904, and at present it holds the status of an organized mission.

The Evangelical Lutheran St. John's church was organized in 1871, using the German language until after 1910, and is now a flourishing member of the American Lutheran church. When a building debt hung over the little society in 1873, a member, the late Christian Dinkel, mortgaged his farm to offer security for the amount. When the first places of worship in Floyd county were built the current rate of interest was twenty per cent. In 1886 Lutherans organized in Rockford, and in 1914 in Rudd and in Nora Springs, the latter transferred from Rock Grove township.

Catholic work, which became the Immaculate Conception church of Charles City, began with two families in Floyd township in 1854. Father Slattery was the priest. Services were held when possible until the early 1860's when Father Martin was assigned, a church building was begun in the early 1870's, and the school was constructed somewhat later. Great sacrifices marked its efforts. At Rockford, the Holy Name Catholic church was organized in 1909 and immediately built their pres-

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WAY BACK WHEN . . .

Daniel Whitesell from Nora Springs was the first foreigner naturalized in Floyd county on April 2, 1856. He is said to have walked to Des Moines to file papers on his farm south of Nora Springs.

The history of 1882, states that in that year the foundation of the A. W. Story log cabin was visible. There is a foundation visible on the farm now, owned by Fred Krumrey, that might well be the one spoken of. It is in a logical place for a pioneer to have built and it is within a few feet of the stage coach trail which is visible in the ridge along the river.

The first frame house built in Charles City was built by Sanford Harwood in 1855. This building still exists on the Schlick farm south and west of town. In it were held the first school, first court and first religious services in Charles City.

Children used to chew the bark of slippery elm as their chewing gum. Some even gathered the dried sap of the milkweed for the same "chew."

The first marriage in Scott Township was a remarriage, the "result of better resolve and a rekindling of old loves."

Ambrose W. Story, the first settler of Floyd county in 1850, was killed in 1865 while buffalo hunting near Fort Laramie.

Two earthquake shocks at 11:00 am. were experienced Oct. 24, 1869 in Floyd county.

On July 5, 1856 there was a slight frost. August 1, 1861, saw heat of 100 to 105 degrees.

RELIGION (Continued)

ent place of worship. It had previously been attended as a mission church. The first Catholic service in the Roseville area was held in 1867 and for a time was served by the resident priest at Charles City. A church was erected in 1871, the school was built in 1904, and the present Spanish Romanesque building was constructed in 1929 to serve a thriving constituency.

Many of these congregations met in crude homes, in school houses, in halls, in basements, or found hospitality temporarily in the meeting houses of other denominations until their own places of worship could be built, or, in later cases, replaced by more adequate and finer structures.

The desire to worship God, to combat the untoward influences that crept into the communities, to find redemption and power to make Christianity a way of life caused the pioneers of Floyd county to sacrifice in order to found the societies and sanctuaries that uphold the uplifting and outreaching life.

In the Howardville Wesleyan Church is an American flag, made stitch by stitch by the women of the community in 1861. This was made to use in a 4th of July celebration in Floyd. It is now framed and behind glass to be preserved.

Clement L. Webster of Rockford wrote the History of 1897, most of which was given over to the Indians and the Mounds found in Floyd county. He is said to have opened many of these mounds and given much information as to Indian life in the county in earliest times.

First piano in the county was in the Cheney home in Charles City, the parents of Miss Olive Hand.

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CHARLES CITY, IOWA

There are two log cabins left in Floyd county, One is located east of Floyd (Mutchlar cabin), and the other is southeast of Nora Springs (Edson Gaylord cabin).

Floyd County Agricultural Society was incorporated in February 1859 and held the first annual fair October 5 and 6 of the same year. There were over 400 entries.

In 1954 Charles City celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first walking bridge (1904) across the Cedar river. (The present suspension bridge was completed July 31, 1906).

The first post office was operated by Robt. L. Freeman, in Freeman, the south part of Charles City.

First naturalized citizen of the county was Dan Whitsell, grandfather of Roy and Nellie Whitsell of Nora Springs, April 2, 1856.

A few bison were found here in the early days. The Sherman herd in Nora Springs help to revive memories of wildlife of great size.

On a hill west of the Brick and Tile Company of Rockford is the rare "creeping juniper." It is said to be of glacial origin, brought down from the pole in glacial times, millions of years ago. It is of a type known only here in Floyd county and one spot in the state of Pennsylvania.

Old Pioneer Museum owned and operated by the late Plynn Dykeman has a fine collection of Indian relics and tools and much fine polished stone.

Mr. C. G. Patten, the famous pomologist of Floyd county is said to have been the "Luther Burbank" of Iowa.

Rockford boasted a paper mill in 1882 run by Robert Eggert.

March 11, 1870 is remembered for heavy snow — up to 20 inches — with lightning.

43rd parallel of north latitude runs through the county five miles south of Charles City.

First fruit trees in the county were brought to Nora Springs and set out by Edson Gaylord.

CHARLES CITY'S BANKS HAVE HELPED THE COMMUNITY GROW

	1904	1954
Combined Deposits	$1,249,406.93	$13,781,195.43
Combined Resources	$1,643,220.33	$15,032,855.58

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THE CHARLES CITY COLLEGE

(This article taken from the Greater Charles City Edition of The Charles City Intelligencer dated January 24, 1911.)

Charles City College is an institution organized under the auspices of the Northwest German Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. It was moved from Galena, Illinois in 1891, and since then has had a remarkable history with regard to its internal development and its material growth. For years it had a severe struggle because of its limited resources and a heavy load of debt, which had been incurred by reason of its expansion beyond the immediately available; but its friends rallied 'round the noble cause, wiping out the indebtedness and increasing the endowment. In 1906, President Hirsch succeeded in interesting Andrew Carnegie, who promised $25,000, on condition that a total of $75,000 be raised, thus putting the institution on a solid financial basis. The panic of 1907 temporarily interfered with the work, but in 1909, the entire amount was secured so that the cash endowment of the college now amount to upwards of $130,000. Last June, Mr. George Foel of Storm Lake, Iowa, some of whose children had attended the college before its removal from Galena, Illinois, generously offered $6,000 to be used in the erection of a modern residence for the president of the faculty. A substantial brick building has

been constructed, and President Hirsch is just about to move into this well appointed residence.

During the past years, the courses of study have been brought up to the standard requirements of schools of college rank, in Iowa, so that the trustees and faculty can point with pride to the fact that the graduates of this institution are fully equipped for post graduate work in any of our best universities.

That the scholastic requirements of Charles City College are of a high grade is proved by the fact that within the past ten years its graduates have regularly been admitted to post graduate work in the State University of Iowa, the University of Chicago, Harvard, University of Minnesota, and other schools of equal rank. Not only that, but young men who have graduated here within the last dozen years are now found as professors in Harvard, State University of Wisconsin, State University of Iowa, Cornell University, and of Nanchang, a university in China, and every one of these men is making an enviable record for scholarship and efficient service.

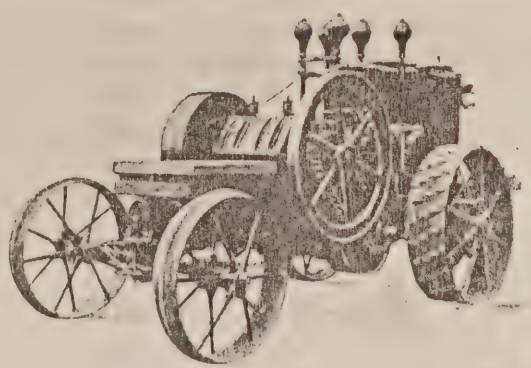
The semester hour system of credits has been adopted by the school, and 124 credits in College are required for graduation. The institution confers the degrees of A.B. and B.S., and it is well equipped to do excellent work not only in the languages, but also in philosophy, the natural sciences, history and other branches of investigation. A special effort is being put forth now to increase the library facilities, and it is expected that within the coming year 3,000 to 5,000 volumes will be added.

At the last annual conference, Rev. F. O. Barz was appointed field secretary of the College, and he is doing efficient work in gathering new students and in enlisting the interest of people in various ways for the benefit of the College.

The following is the list of the faculty, including both the regular professors and the assistants in various departments.

Frank E. Hirsch, D.D., LL.D., President; William F. Finke, A.M., Dean; William G. Baab, A.M.; Frederick Schaub, A.M., D.D.; Samuel C. Steinbrenner, A.M.; Laura C. Fischer, A.B., Secretary; T. Earl Moore, A.M.; Emma A. Ruppersberg, B.S.; Kathryn Mulch, Esther Luebke, John A. Fogt, Mary E. Mulfinger, Gladys Bate, Grace Hammond.

Some gold was prospected from Floyd Cemetery to the river, according to the late Plynn Dykeman.



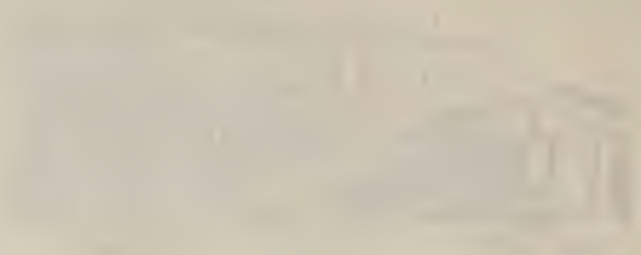
In 1892 two mechanically inclined men met at the University of Wisconsin. This meeting grew into a life long friendship and in later years C. W. "Charlie" Hart and C. H. "Charlie" Parr formed the Hart-Parr Co., pioneers in the creation of the farm tractor.

Their interest while at the University centered around gas engine research and after their graduation in 1896 they started to build gas engines at Madison, Wisconsin.

In 1900 Hart-Parr moved to its permanent home in Charles City, Iowa and in the winter of 1900-01 the first gas traction engine, forerunner of the modern tractor, was produced. This first tractor was sold to Dave Jennings, near Mason City, Iowa, who operated it continuously for 17 years.

In 1907, Sales Manager W. H. Williams while trying to think of a shorter word to convey the meaning of "Gasoline Traction Engine," had an inspiration and the word "Tractor" flashed to his mind, and a new word was added to the English language.

The original Hart-Parr plant built in 1900 consisted of a machine shop 84 x 220 feet, a foundry 60 x 70 feet, also a pattern shop, heating plant and office building.



To Market, To Market . . .

WHEN FLOYD COUNTY WAS YOUNG

McGREGOR WHOLESALE MARKET

January 1, 1859

Butter, 10 to 12c
Beans, bu. 40 to 50c
Coffee, Rio, 12 to 12½c per lb.
Candles, mould, 12 to 13c per lb.
Cheese, 9 to 11c per lb.
Corn, bu., 40c
Flour, bbl., $2.50 to $2.75
Hams, lb., 9 to 10c
Hides, dry, lb., 13c
Lard, lb., 10½c
Molasses, N. O., gal., 40 to 45c
Molasses, S. H., gal., 55 to 60c
Mackerel, No. 2, bbl., $15 to $16
Oats, bu., 40c
Onions, bu., $1.50
Pork, fresh, CWT $4.50 to $5.00
Pork, salt, bbl., $14 to $14.50
Sugar, N. O., lb., 8 to 9¾c
Sugar, crushed, lb., 12½c

CEDAR FALLS MARKET

December 4, 1862

Flour, extra superfine, CWT $2.50
Wheat, bu., 55 to 65c
Corn, bu., 20 to 25c
Oats, bu., 25 to 30c
Barley, bu., 30 to 40c
Clover Seed, bu., $6
Timothy, bu., 80c
Beans, bu., 75c
Potatoes, bu., 20 to 25c
Butter, lb., 7 to 9c
Lard, lb., 5 to 6c
Eggs, doz., 5c
Salt, bbl., $2.50
Hides, green, lb., 3 to 4c
Hides, salt, lb., 4 to 5c
Hides, dry flint, 9 to 10c
Raisins, $4 CWT
Tea, young Hysan, lb., $1.20 to $1.45
Tea, Imperial, lb., $1.40
Tea, Gunpowder, lb., $1.40
Tea, Oolang, lb., 70 to 80c

McGREGOR WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT

November 29, 1862

Wheat, bu., 70 to 76c
Oats, bu., 25c
Corn, bu., 25c
Potatoes, bu., 25c
Tallow, lb., 7c
Hides, lb., 13c
Wool, lb., 45 to 50c
Beef on hoof, CWT $2
Lard, lb., 5 to 6c
Eggs, doz., 5 to 6c
Butter, lb., 9 to 12c
Flour, 100 lb., $2.25
Pork, 100 lb., $2.50 to $3
Sugar, N.O., lb., 10 to 11c
Sugar, white coffee, lb., 12½c
Sugar, pwd., lb., 14c
Coffee, Rio, lb., 25 to 27c
Coffee, Java, lb., 30c
Coffee, Mocha, lb., 30c
Rice, lb., 8½c
Molasses, N.O., gal., 50c
Syrup, N. Y. Golden, gal., 50c
Syrup, Belselers, gal., 40c
Fish, dry cod, lb., 5½c
Fish, white, lb., 4c
Fish, trout, lb., 4c
Cut Nails, CWT $4.50
N. Y. White Lead, 6½c
Linseed Oil, gal., $1.12
White Oil, gal., 90c
Lard Oil, gal., 80c
Babbits saleratus, 8½s
Candles, tallow, lb., 11½c
Candles, stars, lb., 22c
Candles, sperm. lb., 30c
Crackers, lb., 6c
Stick and asst. candy, 12 to 16c
Soap, bar, 6c
Starch, 8c
Dried Apples, lb., 5½ to 6½c
Fine Salt, bbl., $2.50
Dairy Salt, bbl., $4.25
Prunes, lb., 10c

CHARLES CITY RETAIL MARKET
Wed., Sept. 3, 1862

Flour, CWT $1.25 to $1.50
Wheat, spring, bu., 40 to 50c
Corn on Cob, bu., 25 to 30c
Corn, shelled, bu., 30c
Oats, bu., 20 to 30c
Corn Meal, CWT $1
Potatoes, bu., 50 to 75c
Beans, bu., 50 to 75c
Butter, lb., 6 to 8c
Cheese, lb., 5 to 6c
Salt Pork, lb., 5 to 6c
Fresh Pork, lb., 2½ to 2¾c
Beef, lb., 4 to 6c
Chicken, lb., 5c
Turkeys, lb., 6c
Lard, lb., 5 to 6c
Venison, lb., 5c
Wood, cord, $1.25 to $1.50
Salt, bbl., $4
Eggs, doz., 5c
Wild Hay, ton, $2.50 to $3
Bacon, lb., 5 to 6c
Sugar, N. O., lb., 12c
Maple Sugar, lb., 12c
Maple Syrup, gal., 12c
Molasses, gal., 75c
Syrup, gal., 80c
Soap, bar, 8 to 10c
Candles, tallow, lb., 12 to 14c
Tea, lb., $1.00 to $1.60
Coffee, lb., 25 to 30c
Salt Fish, lb., 8 to 10c
Dried Apples, lb., 8 to 10c
Dried Peaches, lb., 10 to 12c

March 30, 1897

Corn, bu., 10 to 13c
Oats, bu., 10 to 12c
Rye, bu., 23c
Barley, bu., 15 to 18c
Wheat, bu., 60 to 65c
Flour, best fancy patent, CWT $2.50
Flour, second grade, CWT $2.40
Flour, strait, CWT $1.50
Butter, creamery, lb., 15 to 20c
Eggs, doz., 7c
Potatoes, bu., 20c
Timothy Seed, CWT $2
Clover Seed, CWT $4
Flax, bu., 60 to 65c

CHARLES CITY RETAIL MARKET
July 31, 1954

Butter, lb., 65-78c
Cheese, lb., 78c
Flour, 50 lb., $4.00 to $4.50
Hams, lb., 49 to 59c
Lard, lb., 27c
Sugar, lb., 9 to 10c
Potatoes, CWT $4.75 to $6.75
Coffee, lb., $1.29
Crackers, lb., 25 to 30c
Eggs, doz., 40 to 42c
Wool, lb., 54c
Fish (whiting), lb., 39c
Fish (trout or wall-eye), 79c
Raisins, lb., 20c
Saleratus (soda) 12c
Salt, CWT $1.80
Prunes, lb., 35c
Oats, bu., 62c
Corn, bu., $1.45
Clover Seed, CWT $27.00
Linseed Oil (sealed) $2.49

The following figures were furnished by courtesy of Mrs. Glenn Michell of Rockford. They were taken from a circular dated 1858 and found in "History of Floyd County, 1882."

Transportation of merchandise from McGregor to Floyd County cost $1.25 to $1.75 per hundred weight (CWT).

Lumber $15.00 to $25.00 per thousand.

Cordwood, $2.00 to $2.50 per cord delivered.

Land values, $2.00 to $10.00 for prairie land and $10.00 to $20.00 for timber land per acre. (By 1900 improved land had risen to from $60.00 to $125.00 per acre depending on the location.)

Prices for labor were $1.00 per day for men and a dollar per day for a team.

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GIRLHOOD HOME OF CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

Carrie Chapman Catt, Noted Suffragist Leader Floyd County Girl

THE ONLY HISTORICAL marker in Floyd county is a bronze plate on a boulder in front of the girlhood home of Carrie Lane Chapman Catt, noted suffragette, southwest of Charles City. Fred Thurow now owns the Lane homestead, built in 1867.

The marker, a gift of the Floyd County Federation of Women's Clubs, was dedicated October 20, 1938 by Mrs. Hiram Houghton, president of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, during the district convention.

Carrie Lane came here from Ripon, Wis., with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Lane, when she was seven years old. She made many trips on horseback to the Charles City high school, graduating with the class of 1877. Three years later she was the only girl in the graduating class at Iowa State College.

In 1884 she married Leo Chapman, a newspaper editor in Mason City while she was principal of the high school. They moved to San Francisco where Mr. Chapman died two years later.

As Mrs. Chapman she returned to Charles City to spend 1887 and 1888 writing for the cause of suffrage and editing the Floyd County Advocate.

In 1890 she was married in Seattle, Wash., to an Ames classmate, George W. Catt, a civil engineer, who was in sympathy with her work. He died Oct. 8, 1905.

Mrs. Catt's suffrage record covers a period of 51 years. For 21 years she was president of the National Suffrage Association. She was founder and president of the International Suffrage Association for 23 years.

The passage of the nineteenth amendment Aug. 26, 1920 was the reward for her strenuous labors.

Until her mother's death, Dec. 11, 1907, Mrs. Catt often visited her in her home she built for her at 300 Ferguson street. Her last appearance in Charles City was several years later when she lectured in the Hildreth opera house.

Mrs. Catt died March 7, 1947 at her home at New Rochelle, N. Y. at the age of 88. Her name is the only one mentioned in five national selections of ten greatest women in the United States.

A second historical achievement of the Floyd County Federation of Women's Clubs was the organization of the Floyd County Historical Society, Oct. 29, 1953. John Legel, Charles City, is president and Mrs. Selby Russell, Rockford, is secretary.

The St. Charles Women's Club, organized and federated in 1907, is the oldest federated club in Floyd county. Mrs. G. C. Blunt is president and Mrs. Carl Bunze is secretary of this club which first promoted the historical society through the county federation.

Officers of the county federation are Mrs. Leonard Dodge, president and Mrs. Ray Sweet, secretary, both of Colwell.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

EIGHTY YEARS AGO

In 1873 land in Floyd county that had been partly improved could be purchased at anywhere from $5 to $20 per acre, while unimproved land could be bought for $3 to $6 per acre. A comparison with present prices when farms are selling at $80 to $100 per acre anywhere in the county, serves to show the possibilities of this section of the country. Men are considered wealthy today who have been made so almost entirely by this steady and substantial increase in the value of their holdings. —*from an early 1900 newspaper.*

Glacial Boulder in Riverton Township is said to be the largest in the Midwest. It is 40 x 40 feet and 12 feet thick above the surface of the ground; depth below surface is unknown.

The first school in the county was of logs in Nora Springs. A piece of a stump from which logs were cut for this school still exists. It is in the hands of the Edson Gaylord family.

The "Red Cedar River" gained its name from the quantity of red cedar trees found on its banks.

January 1858 saw cold weather. It was -44° and many people froze to death.

Back in 1860 Floyd County farmers were known as "quarter section farmers."

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Wild Turkey, Goose and Grouse...

Floyd County's Poultry Industry 100 Years Ago

The early records describe northern Iowa as abundant in game birds — wild goose, wild turkeys and grouse. Thousands of these gay-plumaged beauties roamed the river bottoms and uplands of what is now Floyd County. What a hunter's paradise it must have been! Yet, with all its feathered denizens, the Floyd County of 100 years ago would not make much more than a drop in the bucket of our local poultry industry today.

The last agricultural census valued the poultry and poultry products sold from Floyd County farms in the preceding year at $2.2 million. This sum includes the income from 258,000 chickens sold, 121,000 turkeys and over 3 million dozen eggs! It does not include the value ($326,000) of chickens and turkeys on farms and not sold.

As you can see, poultry in Floyd County is no small business. Neither is the U. S. poultry industry, a sprawling agricultural colossus that annually stacks up over $4.5 billion in income. As poultry raisers have improved their production methods and their stock, poultry products have become uniform, tasty, high quality. As processing and distribution have streamlined, freshness and attractiveness are evident in the poultry and eggs we eat. As America's consuming millions continue to raise their living standards, the epicurean delights of succulent broilers, turkeys and capons are, more and more, a daily occurrence on the dinner table.

Yes, the poultry industry is big, and still growing. Growing along with it is a firm which had its beginning in Charles City 31 years ago, and which has continued to send out its nation-wide spokes with Charles City as the hub. Dr. Salsbury's laboratories was founded as a service to the poultry raiser, who in the '20s was just beginning to become a businessman. This company is still a service institution; its science, production and sales facilities have all grown enormously, but the aim of all is service — service to the poultry raiser.

The century from 1854 to 1954 has brought innumerable, startling changes. We look back with nostalgia to the simpler, grouse-shooting days of our forefathers — but we recognize, too, the many advantages in homes, health and living that we enjoy today. And, looking ahead to the next 100 years, we predict another century of outstanding progress which will benefit people all over the world and — who knows? — perhaps on other worlds, too!

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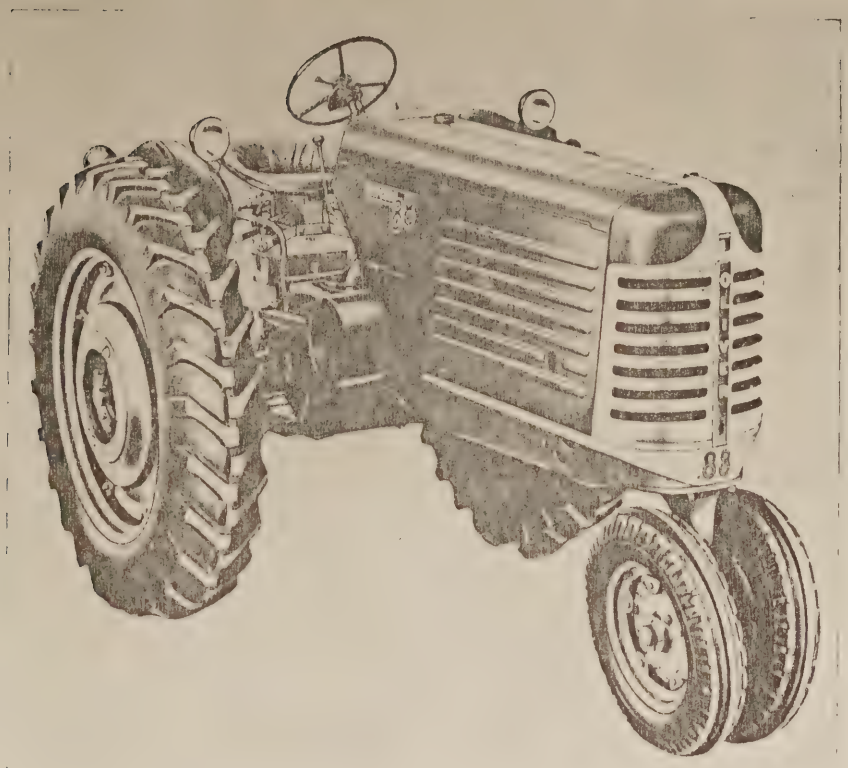

The Oliver Corporation has been the leader in the farm tractor industry since 1900. Many of the features found on farm tractors today were first introduced on Oliver Tractors.

See the Oliver display of the finest in modern farm tractors and equipment at Lions Field during the Centennial Week.

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